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REVIEW OF POLITICS.

THE war languishes in Slesvig. The Austrians and Prussians are not yet in a condition to make any serious attack upon the Danish lines at Düppel ; but, in a smart affair of outposts, the invaders have once more sustained defeat. Unimportant skirmishes are constantly taking place between the advanced parties of both armies, and everything indicates that Düppel will not be yielded by its defenders without an obstinate resistance. It is possible indeed that, with the aid of their gunboats, the Danes may be able to hold their ground. In spite of their sufferings from the weather during the retreat from the Dannewerke, their spirits are unbroken, and their Scandinavian eagerness for the fight undiminished. It would probably have suited the Austrian and Prussian commanders to substitute an easy invasion of Jutland for difficult operations against the army which occupies the Isle of Alsen. But statesmen at Berlin and Vienna did not fail to perceive that, however safe and easy an incursion into Denmark proper might be as a piece of military strategy, it was fraught with political dangers of the gravest kind. The troops which had crossed the frontier were quickly withdrawn ; and we may probably assume that the project of occupying Jutland as a "material guarantee" for the surrender of Slesvig, which has been partially occupied as a "material guarantee" for something else, has for the present been abandoned by the allied Powers. Nothing remains for them but inactivity, or an attack upon Düppel. It is most likely that a decisive conflict will take place within the next few days.

England has invited the German Confederation and the Powers which signed the Treaty of 1852, to a conference in London on the Slesvig-Holstein question, and there is reason to believe that Austria and Prussia have accepted the proposal. It is true that the Danish Minister has just announced, in a circular despatch, that Christian IX. cannot re-open negotiations until Slesvig has been evacuated by the German troops ; but if a congress be once assembled, we do not suppose that his Majesty will be so ill-advised as to refuse the presence of a representative of Denmark. Although the meeting of the conference will not be accompanied by a suspension of hostilities, and although, apart from other circumstances, we should not be very sanguine of any useful result from its deliberations—the step which Austria and Prussia have taken must widen the breach between them and the other German States, and thus indirectly improve the prospects of peace. The two great Powers have already gone as far as they can or dare, in the vain attempt to conciliate, and perhaps to restrain, the other members of the Confederation. They have utterly failed. The smaller princes seem determined

to use the national frenzy as a means of emancipating themselves from an odious subjection, under which they have long groaned. Instead of ranging themselves as the partizans of either Austria or Prussia, they have raised the standard of independence, and talk as if they really meant to pursue a policy of their own. The Conference of Wurzburg has resolved that the right to dispose of Holstein should be reserved to the Diet ; that the same body should decide on the succession question, without reference to the Treaty of London ; that more Federal troops should be sent to secure Holstein, and that preparations should be made for the mobilisation of the armies of the minor States. All these resolutions are directed against Austria and Prussia ; one of them tends directly to precipitate a collision with these Powers, who have pronounced strongly against the dispatch of more Federal troops to Holstein. At the same time we hear that, in Bavaria at any rate, an alliance with France is openly spoken of with favour. Austria and Prussia are thus presented with a very clearly defined alternative. They must either take the settlement of the Slesvig-Holstein question into their own hands ; or they must abdicate their position as great Powers. It is quite certain that they are not prepared to suffer impalement on the latter horn of the political dilemma. But if they select the former it is obvious that they will have the most powerful reasons for making peace with Denmark. They will have quite enough on their hands without the encumbrance of a foreign war, which must perpetually afford opportunities of intervention to their watchful neighbour across the Rhine. It is, therefore, not improbable that if Austria and Prussia enter a congress, they will be willing to discuss the pending controversy on a basis which will afford a reasonable chance of an early and a tolerably satisfactory accommodation. They have already shown by the precipitate withdrawal of their troops from Jutland, that they are indisposed to give any additional provocation for the intervention of other nations in the war with Denmark. They perhaps feel a genuine reluctance to commit what Lord Palmerston properly described as an aggravation of their original offence. Upon the whole there is some, although slight, ground for hope that a contest in which they have gained no laurels may be brought to a speedier termination than seemed likely, until the last few days. It would be not a little singular if the principal result of a war which was entered upon for German aggrandisement should be the destruction of the last chance of German unity. But if the minor States persist in the course upon which they have entered, there is every prospect of the Fatherland again becoming a prey to one of those civil wars of which its history affords so many instances.

The Opposition leaders in the House of Commons are evidently bent on mischief. Nor can it be denied that the position of the Government invites attack. When the Danish papers are laid before Parliament, it may be found that their conduct has been consistent and dignified. It may turn out that they have never given Denmark reason to suppose that she would receive more efficient support and assistance than we are now affording her. Our rôle may, from first to last, have been nothing more than that of a friendly bystander. And we may now be free to say, with honour, that it is not our duty or mission to arrest the commission of a great wrong on which other European Powers look with indifference. But there is a very general impression to the contrary. Even those who are well satisfied that we should not be dragged into war hardly understand how we have been kept out of it, without loss of dignity, or without shrinking from the fulfilment of obligations which, if not expressed, were none the less implied. We do not need the taunts of foreign critics to make us sensible that there is an apparent inconsistency between the active sympathy which we have displayed in word, and the cautious non-intervention we have observed in act. The public are sore and sullen on this subject; and their doubts are aggravated by the unaccountable tardiness of the Government in producing the despatches which are either their justification or their condemnation. But neither the House of Commons nor the country can approve of such tactics as Mr. Disraeli adopted the other night. The Government had a right to expect some notice of the careful, prepared onslaught which the right hon. gentleman made upon them, on the motion for going into committee of supply. It is simply absurd for him to accuse Lord Palmerston of inattention to his duties as leader of the House; or of cowardly reluctance to meet an attack of which he had received no intimation. Both charges were ludicrously wide of the mark, and the general feeling of the House was shown by the cheers which greeted Mr. Gladstone's emphatic defence of his chief. Mr. Disraeli, in fact, committed one of his characteristic mistakes; and, as he has often done before, threw away his advantages, from insensibility to that love of fair play and justice which characterizes every assembly of English gentlemen. He was certainly not directly responsible for Mr. Bernal Osborne's extemporeised vote of want of confidence. But still, such a motion was only the logical consequence of his own speech; and its proposition placed him in much the same position which the Government are supposed to occupy in regard to the war between Denmark and Germany. After tempting an eager ally to action, the right hon. gentleman was compelled by a sense of prudence to leave him in the lurch. His brilliant attack ended, at the sound of the division bell, in an ignominious retreat in which he was not able to carry with him the whole of his followers. Many Conservatives remained to assist the Government in repelling this novel attempt to hustle a Ministry out of office with less ceremony than is displayed in the rejection of a railway bill. And the general result has been to strengthen those who were assailed in so ill-advised and so unfair a manner. We care not how soon the Treasury bench may be stormed in English fight, but do not let its defenders be overpowered by secret approach and piratical surprise.

The debate upon Mr. Seymour Fitzgerald's motion for the production of papers relating to the detention and seizure of the steam rams in the Mersey, raised more than one question of the highest interest and importance. We fully sympathise with those who are anxious that our Government should not display subserviency to foreign Powers; and that the rights of British subjects should not be subjected to arbitrary infraction. But, on the other hand, we are equally desirous that our duties as neutrals should be fully and honourably performed; nor can we remain indifferent to the consequences which must follow if British ports are with impunity converted into Confederate arsenals. It would be unjust not to recognise the difficulty in which the Government were placed by the construction of these vessels. Opposition lawyers, discussing the matter with keen professional instinct, may retail once more the stories which have been put forth as to their intended destination; and may challenge the Attorney-General to show that neither of two inconsistent statements—one, that the vessels were built for a French owner; and the other, that they were intended for the Pacha of Egypt—was true. But those who look at the matter more calmly and impartially, are quite aware

that no human being ever did believe, or does now believe, either of those statements. Nor will they censure the Government if, having regard to the probable results of over credulity in the representations of Mr. Laird and his correspondents, they took the responsibility of acting in the first instance upon suspicion rather than upon positive proof. As Sir R. Palmer reminded the House, the same thing is done every day in the case of persons arrested on criminal charges. And it would, indeed, be strange if private individuals were allowed to push two nations to the verge of war, because the administration brought to the discharge of international duties a timorous regard for the letter rather than the spirit of the law. Some latitude must be allowed to them in cases of this kind. It is their paramount duty to ward off national dangers; and to see that national duties are discharged. If it occasionally becomes necessary for the attainment of these objects that they should act with a promptitude not strictly warranted by law, they are responsible to Parliament, and it is for Parliament to censure or approve their acts. Under such a check it is not likely that they will take extra-legal measures lightly or on insufficient grounds. If individuals are injured by such occasional stretches of the executive power they can be compensated; but it would be difficult to repair the injury which might be inflicted upon the nation if the Government were under all circumstances to maintain a superstitious regard for legal niceties. Unless it can be shown that her Majesty's Ministers had no fair grounds for their suspicions, or that they assumed a greater amount of power than the emergency absolutely required, we do not believe that the country will find fault because they took steps which were requisite for the protection of our highest interests. Nothing of the kind has yet appeared; on the contrary, everything tends to show that they did not make any mistake as to the character and destination of the rams in question. Under these circumstances we can well afford to await the full investigation which the subject will receive in the Court of Exchequer before many weeks have expired. If it should then appear that Earl Russell was not justified in the course he took, it will be quite time enough for the Legislature to deal with his conduct. But until this does appear it is advisable for the public to suspend their judgment. Nor ought they to find any difficulty in doing this now that it has been made plain that the action of the Government preceded instead of following Mr. Adams's menacing notes.

The recent news from America presents few features of interest or importance. Activity in the field is still confined to the Confederates. They are said to be again threatening Newbern in North Carolina; they have cut off the communication between Knoxville and Cumberland Gap; they are still menacing Knoxville; and there is reason to believe that their army in Virginia maintains an attitude eminently discouraging to any repetition of Federal movements upon Richmond. We are not indeed surprised at the caution of the Federal commanders in this state, when we learn, on the authority of General Meade, that the operations of the army of the Potomac have, since March, 1861, been attended with a loss of 100,000 men in killed and wounded—a loss, we need hardly say, unattended with the slightest result or with the conquest of a single foot of ground. The Northern press is consoling itself for the disasters which have lately befallen their arms by the discussion of grand combined movements which are said to be in contemplation. We are told that Grant will soon advance into Georgia; but it is difficult to believe that he will venture to move against Johnston and Hardee while Longstreet and his army are still in his rear, threatening his line of communication and menacing Knoxville. The favourite project, however, seems that of which the execution is entrusted to General Sherman. It was supposed that his army was intended to operate against Mobile. But it is now asserted that it will attempt to make its way across the States of Mississippi and Alabama, in order to fall on the flank of the Confederate troops in Georgia. It is difficult, however, to conceive such a plan being seriously entertained. The very statement of the country to be traversed—a country almost entirely destitute of such roads as are required for the facile movement of an army—is sufficient to show the absurdity of the scheme. But, then, that is no reason why it should not be sanctioned by a War Department which has permitted General Butler to attempt the capture of Richmond at the head of a few thousand men.

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SIR EMERSON TENNANT AND MR. WHITWORTH.

SIR EMERSON TENNANT did not consult his reputation when he appeared as a writer upon the subject of gunnery. It is a subject upon which he is with reason believed to be most ignorant; nor could he expect that his book would be in print many days before it was generally surmised under whose inspiration it was written. A literary puff of Mr. Whitworth is ill-timed. For a year and more the Armstrong and Whitworth Committee has been sitting, anxiously waiting for the 70-pounder Whitworth guns of which Sir Emerson Tennant with extraordinary *sang froid* gives us a picture at p. 180 of his volume. The Duke of Somerset and Lord De Grey, from their places in the House of Lords, a week ago publicly announced the inability of Sir Emerson's client to supply guns at present for the Government to test. Yet it is at this critical juncture that Sir Emerson is put forward to cast a literary mantle over Mr. Whitworth's shoulders—to persuade the public that Mr. Whitworth is the greatest artillerist of the day—and, moreover, the wretched victim of official injustice. The Whitworth Ordnance Company evidently seem to think that the gates of public opinion may give way before that instrumental overture of trumpets which in olden times is known to have prostrated the walls of Jericho.

The Nemesis that falls on literary offenders has fallen upon Sir Emerson Tennant. He has committed a tissue of crimes in this volume which no critic can pardon. It is not that he is the advocate of this or that ordnance company. He might be that, and yet be a valuable authority, though the English public would prefer a writer who seems in reality to be a partisan and a mouthpiece to abstain from such professions of neutrality as those with which the preface in the "Story of the Guns" begins. But when a writer—who appears upon the scene with an air of impartial candour and generosity—for 350 pages proceeds to write up one artillerist and to write down others, making point after point by a suppression, a distortion, and too often by a positive misquotation of printed evidence, he draws upon his own head that grave censure which a year ago we should not have believed was destined ever to be meted out to an author of the position and the literary skill of Sir Emerson Tennant.

The list of the guns that Mr. Whitworth has really made, and of the achievements performed by each, is only to be discovered by careful search; and certainly the narrative is not to be found written in the "Story of the Guns." Most people are aware that the difficulties of getting a gun to stand heavy charges Mr. Whitworth proposes to surmount by making a gun of homogeneous metal, which is another name for mild steel. The manufacture of steel is in a very uncertain state. Large masses of this untrustworthy but hard metal have never hitherto been procured in England in a condition from which heavy guns safely may be bored; nor is it nearly certain that Krupp has never done more than produce an exceptional effect by chance pieces of manufacture that cannot be repeated. Sir William Armstrong adopts the coil system. Mr. Lancaster, we believe, has great hopes of improving the manufacture of iron up to the requisite point. But Mr. Whitworth has simply evaded the dilemma by using Sir William Armstrong's coil system, and loudly calling the gun so made by his own name. In 1858, as the House of Commons' Committee in their report of last July informs us, Mr. Whitworth had no system of construction of guns at all. He competed against Sir W. Armstrong with guns of solid brass, supplied to him in block by the Government and rifled by him on the polygonal system. Since then his progress may be easily traced; for, to the deep regret probably of himself and of Sir Emerson Tennant, there are such things as Blue-books. Though their effect may be kept from the knowledge of the public at large by literary skill, it will sooner or later be comprehended, and all attempts at exaggeration or mystification only recoil at last on their own author's head.

The guns first rifled by Mr. Whitworth were mainly if not altogether brass guns supplied to him in block, as we have seen. They were all field guns and howitzers—the largest of the latter being a 24-pounder, the smallest of the former a 6-pounder. These guns are still, we believe, in existence, some six hundred rounds having been fired from them in all. Mr. Whitworth, however, neither had at the time nor has he yet any shell or fuse worthy of the name to be fired from them, and until he surmounts this deficiency, their value as field guns must be *nil*, as shell and shell only are used with our field artillery. The next guns made by Mr. Whitworth were two cast-iron 32-pounders and one 68-pounder also of cast-iron. Of these, the 68-pounder appears in Sir Emerson's pages as the gun that fired at the *Alfred*. It burst after a few rounds,

as did its two companions. The simultaneous bursting of these three led the Government to the wise—though, according to Sir Emerson, the unpatriotic—conclusion not to give Mr. Whitworth any more blocks to rifle for them.

Mr. Whitworth now decided on making a gun for himself, which would bear the strain of his system of rifling. In 1860 he produced a steel 12-pounder (a field gun) and an 80-pounder also of steel—the only steel guns he has given to the world as yet. The 12-pounder still exists. But the 80-pounder, which is the gun whose exploits at Southport are detailed by Sir Emerson, unfortunately burst also. The next year four brass guns of Mr. Whitworth were condemned at Shorncliffe, after firing 200 rounds. Five guns have since been produced as Whitworth guns, to none of which is Mr. Whitworth entitled to call himself father. Two 70-pounders were made for him at Woolwich entirely on the coil system. One of these has not been fired at all. The other coil-gun is the gun that was fired against the *Warrior* target; though about the parentage of the gun Sir Emerson keeps a discreet silence. About the same time the coils and trunnions, &c., for two other guns were furnished to Mr. Whitworth from the Woolwich factory; Mr. Whitworth adding to them his own steel barrel. The first of the two split its steel barrel at proof, and was withdrawn. Mr. Whitworth in some alarm asked that coiled barrels might be substituted in both guns for the steel; and, this delicate request being declined, he obtained from Woolwich for the surviving gun, additional hoops of coil, but has never allowed it to be fired against any iron plate. Lastly comes the large coil-gun made for Mr. Whitworth by the Royal gun factory—on what he chose, in letters to the *Times* of October and November, 1862, to call his "drawings," but in reality on the Armstrong principle of construction, which he readily agreed to adopt. Thus it will be seen that not a single heavy gun has been made by Mr. Whitworth since 1860, when the only large gun of his own construction gave way. The effects which he has obtained have been obtained by using the very system of construction which he vehemently professes to condemn—a circumstance which is perfectly well known to all the scientific artillerists of the country—though Mr. Whitworth's friends allow it to ooze out as little as possible in the press.

Such is the veritable history of the Whitworth guns. Now for Sir Emerson's *story* of the guns. Sir Emerson begins by reiterating an old complaint of Mr. Whitworth's, that the trial of 1858 between the Armstrong and Whitworth guns was unfair. This grievance seems first to have seen the light nearly three years after the affair, and has accordingly, in spite of Sir Emerson, an *ex post facto* look about it that is suspicious. But it is absolutely proved to be untrue by recent investigations before the House of Commons Committee, not one word about which does Sir Emerson vouchsafe. He writes as follows:

"After a very few trials with the Whitworth gun, at which Mr. Whitworth states that he had had no opportunity given him to be present. P. 127."

Mr. Whitworth in his letter to the *Times* of November 8, 1862, makes the same assertion.

"Nor was I even allowed to be present at the trial of my own gun."

This assertion is simply untrue. Last spring, before the Committee of the House of Commons, it was proved by Sir W. Wiseman that Mr. Whitworth had full notice of *all* the trials, and that he availed himself of the notice.

"Sir W. Wiseman: I can show from the letter-book that we have written to Mr. Whitworth, naming the hours during which the tides would answer for practice during several days, and requesting him to name the time that would be most convenient for him to attend.—Blue-book, 1863 (p. 149)."

Next we have one of these letters printed at length in the Blue-book (p. 401). Then we have the clearest evidence of the Secretary of the Committee himself, that Mr. Whitworth not merely had these letters sent to him, but availed himself pretty freely of the invitation.

"Captain A. Noble: I cannot at this distance of time speak exactly as to whether he was present every day, but I know positively that he was present at some of these trials, and that due notice was always given to him. . . . I recollect distinctly his presence upon nearly all the occasions."—*Ibid.*, 3,087, 3,091.

Lastly, Mr. Whitworth, before the same Committee, was compelled to acknowledge his own presence (Blue-book, 1863, 3,047).

After this, what will our readers say to Sir Emerson's method of attack upon the fairness of a body of honourable and distinguished officers, in order that he may obtain a wretched and unfounded triumph for Mr. Whitworth at their expense?

Next, let us take an instance of a positive suppression of

evidence, altogether contrary to the established code of literary men. Mr. Whitworth has been in the habit of wanting Government to allow him to conduct the official trials of his own guns, and none probably knew better than Mr. Whitworth why Government declines to make him an exception to the law. On one occasion Sir Emerson tells us that Lord Herbert promised to relax the rule for Mr. Whitworth—on the occasion of the Southport trials in 1860. Sir Emerson writes as follows, the italics being his own :—

"From the Report, &c., made public three years after, it appears that the assent of the Secretary of State to allow the workmen who were familiar with the guns to fire them at least in part, was only a good-humoured *ruse* of Lord Herbert to amuse Mr. Whitworth. 'The guns,' says the report of the two officers, 'were fired a few rounds previously by Mr. Whitworth's men, but of these we took no note; they were then handed over to the Royal Artillery and to seamen of the Royal navy, and the practice carried on was *entirely under our direction*'" ("Story of the Guns," p. 208).

The reader will appreciate the value of inverted commas and italics under Sir Emerson's able manipulation, when he learns that, by turning to the original, he will not find the sentence conclude where Sir Emerson puts a full stop. Will it be believed that it proceeds as follows in the Blue-book Report (p. 475), a comma only intervening ?

"and that of Commander H——, of the *Excellent*, who was sent down for the purpose by the Admiralty: *a man of Mr. Whitworth's, accustomed to fire his guns, looking over the sights on each occasion before firing, and pointing out anything that required alteration.*"

Is this good faith with the public? Is it what is usual even with writers of less note than Sir Emerson Tennant? The levity of the taunt directed against the late Lord Herbert, than whom a fairer and more honourable man never stepped, is made worse when we discover, after a troublesome search, the curtailing which the text of the Blue-book has undergone. Mr. Whitworth is a clever man; but we should have expected it would have taken a cleverer man to make the literary Sir Emerson Tennant condescend to this.

We will now take a final instance of positive and disgraceful misquotation. From first to last Sir Emerson Tennant's object is to show that the gunnery officers of the service who gave evidence before the House of Commons' Committee made damaging admissions about the Armstrong gun. Here is one of many specimens of misrepresentation: it is so bad that we need not comment on it :—

"STORY OF THE GUNS."

And so it may prove among the crew. The careless and unobtrusive will not shrink, because they are unaware of the danger; but the intelligent will be distrustful from a perception of the risk. Captain Hewlett, of the *Excellent*, than whom no one has expressed a higher opinion of the Armstrong guns, says, "Although his own men and officers have the most perfect confidence in them, the general opinion of the navy is rather adverse. They are frightened from one or two accidents, and the feeling of the fleet now is rather against them."

Here it will be observed that Sir Emerson Tennant not merely changes a tense in order to represent the navy as permanently adverse to Mr. Whitworth's rival; he introduces a "*now*," which is not in the original, and which is contradictory of the whole sense of the original. Lastly, he deliberately cuts out all those portions of the text that make either against his quotation or against the passage which preceded it,—which latter, as applied to gunnery, is one of the most ludicrous pieces of writing that ever came from an ignorant person's pen. Again, we ask, can it be possible that Sir Emerson Tennant is not above such disingenuous manœuvres? These are marked but not isolated instances of the spirit of the whole volume. Those who verify the references by the Blue-book will find point by point, as they proceed, that Sir Emerson is writing up Mr. Whitworth by a process of distortion of printed evidence that is fortunately not common among controversialists. Of such a book we need not say more. It is an unpleasant subject, and will probably be made an unpleasant one to Sir Emerson before he has done with it.

THE HALF-YEARLY RAILWAY MEETINGS.

THE position and prospects of railway property are matters of national concern. The capital invested in the railways of the United Kingdom amounts to about four hundred millions

sterling, or about half the amount of the National Debt. An increase of dividends carries comfort and hope into numberless families, and is one of the most agreeable signs and proofs of general prosperity. The half-yearly meetings are for the most part over. Most of the lines show improved traffic, and in many instances the directors have been able to announce augmented dividends. This is the more satisfactory, as the receipts have had to sustain a comparison with the exceptional half-year of the Great Exhibition traffic.

The London and North Western divides 6 per cent., as against 5½ paid in the corresponding half-year. The increased earnings were £135,196, but, on the other hand, the revenue has to bear the additional charge of the new 5 per cent. preference stock, of which about £400,000 has been issued. It is somewhat singular that, concurrently with the distress in the manufacturing districts, the increase should be chiefly in the receipts from merchandise, the receipts from passengers remaining nearly stationary. The working expenses have been kept down, as is shown by the fact that the increase in the expenditure amounts to only one-fifth of the augmented income. The colossal extent of this greatest of English railways and the vast amount of its mileage are strikingly illustrated by the fact that the goods and passenger trains together ran over nine millions of miles during the half-year—about thirty-eight times the distance of the moon from the earth. This railway has a capital of nearly £40,000,000; it has upwards of 1,200 miles of line in operation; and takes £90,000 a week. The directors relish the idea of an expensive Parliamentary contest for the metropolitan railway schemes so little, that they went to the Board of Trade to point out that the railways already constructed, and in course of construction, could be made to supply the public with all or nearly all the accommodation required, if the several companies would co-operate with the Euston-square Board in turning the existing lines to the best account, and in giving each other mutual facilities. The position of the London and North Western is eminently satisfactory, and is so regarded on the Stock Exchange, as would appear by the recent rise in the value of the company's stock. It is true that in 1846 the dividend was 10 per cent., but that was the golden age of railways, which only lasted a year or two. Then came the age of competition, and the directors have perhaps done as much as could be expected of them in keeping up the dividend to an average of nearly 5 per cent. for thirteen years.

The Great Northern meeting was likewise satisfactory. The receipts from passenger traffic were less by £24,295, but owing to the abundant harvest there was an increase in the carriage of grain and potatoes. The mineral traffic is also increasing. The revenue shows an increase of £6,000 odd, and the dividend is 8½ per cent. on the original shares, and 6½ per cent. on the ordinary stock. The directors lend the London, Chatham, and Dover Company £300,000 at 3½ per cent. to enable that company to complete the short link between their station at Earl-street, Blackfriars, and the Metropolitan Company's station at Farringdon-street. The chairman admitted that the company might have to pay 4 per cent. for this money, but the loss of £1,500 a year would be much more than covered by the advantages secured by running powers over the line, and the means of conveying coal from Lancashire and Yorkshire, across the Ludgate-hill viaduct, into the southern districts of the metropolis and the southern counties. On the other hand, the directors have just paid a stiff bill of £25,000 for law expenses, and last year they paid £25,000 for railway accidents. But the fly in the Great Northern pot of ointment is a proposal by the Great Eastern to construct a railway in direct competition with their own from a point a few miles north of Cambridge to Askerne and Doncaster. It will pass between the main and loop lines of the Great Northern Company, and will not be farther than 3½ miles distant from them. The Parliamentary advocates of the Great Northern attempted to throw out the bill on the second reading last week, but Mr. Massey declared that the question of competition ought to have no weight with the House. The bill is therefore referred to a select committee, and the battle must be fought out upstairs.

The Great Eastern, too, has had its meeting, and the directors have given their version of the new scheme. Mr. Bidder claims credit for being the author of this "Great Eastern Northern Junction line." He only carries the war into the enemy's quarters, for the Great Northern have, he says, invaded the Great Eastern at Cambridge, Hertford, and Lynn, and now want to get into Norfolk. The Great Eastern (then the Eastern Counties) proposed to make the line to York twenty years ago; but the Parliamentary Committee decided in favour of the London and York, and the

Eastern Counties have been under a cloud ever since. The Great Eastern Junction Railway is a line from their Cambridgeshire branch through part of Northamptonshire and Lincolnshire, up to Doncaster. It opens up a new route to London from Yorkshire and Lancashire. It would enable the directors to compete for a portion of the Scotch passenger traffic and the Yorkshire and Durham mineral traffic, and would bring the eastern counties into communication with the coal and manufacturing districts. The line is to be 130 miles long, and the cost of construction not more than £2,000,000, it is said, for which outlay Mr. Bidder promises the shareholders a traffic of £250,000 a year. "If they wanted a dividend of 5 per cent., that was the way to get it." The traffic between London and Doncaster on the Great Northern was, he said, about £750,000, and the shareholders might depend upon it that the prospect of getting a share of the plums out of that pudding would run up their stock from 50 to 75. The gradients are so good, and the traction-power consequently so much less costly, that coals are to be brought to London by this line at a saving of two shillings per ton, representing £500,000 per annum gain to the consumer! The new line is introduced by the General Credit Finance Company, the Great Eastern taking half the capital and working the line on advantageous terms.

But doubts are expressed whether the extension policy is the true remedy for the Great Eastern complaint. They have 650 miles of territory already open. The directors have carried to capital account from suspense account the sum of £130,000, which ought to be borne by revenue. The manager reports that serious loss and delays have arisen from the want of sufficient rolling stock. They have been famed for "making things pleasant" and "cooking the accounts" at Shoreditch, and it now appears that the repairs of the line have been kept down to the lowest possible point, for the purpose of squeezing out former dividends. So that, although the traffic has increased to a greater extent than on any previous half year, the increase on the goods traffic alone amounting to £33,000, still the working expenses are not less than 50 per cent., and a large outlay must be incurred to place the line in a safe and efficient condition. For all these reasons the directors were only able to recommend a dividend of 2½ per cent.—the same as the corresponding half of 1862. Seeing that the existing traffic exceeds the accommodation provided for it, the question has been asked why the company should not see what can be made out of 650 miles with better rolling stock, instead of adding 130 miles at a stretch over and above all the provincial extensions and metropolitan junctions, including a handsome City station in Wormwood-street, only five minutes' walk from the Royal Exchange. But the bait held out by Mr. Bidder was irresistible. The shareholders adopted the report of the directors, and another and most important attempt is to be made to improve the property of the Great Eastern shareholders. We cannot part company from this line without glancing at the working of the law of compensation for railway accidents. The Eastern Counties Company receive 50 per cent. of the gross receipts for working the Lynn and Hunstanton line. They paid £6,529 for compensation in respect of the accident on that line, and they only received £3,733 for working it, making an absolute loss of £2,796 for the past year. A shareholder who pointed out this "gain of a loss" hoped that the accident "did not arise from want of vigilance and from working the railway servants too many hours." If Boards were not made to smart for railway accidents, would not the lives of the public be still more endangered by this species of cruel and short-sighted economy?

The London and South-Western dividend is 5½ against 6 for the corresponding half-year in 1863. The Board propose many new extensions, and they are going to Parliament to take part in the great battle of the metropolitan railways. They propose a new line of their own from Kensington to Richmond, many miles in length, and costing more than half a million. Complaints were made against their extension policy. The Chairman made a remark which must have greatly astonished the residents on the line. He said it would not do in railway matters to meet the requirements of railway traffic in a niggardly way. "If we do that, it gives our opponents before Parliament an argument for saying that we do not give accommodation enough in the district we serve, and that another line is wanted." As we have on more than one occasion adverted to the niggardly provision for the traffic of at least one of the London and South-Western branches—the Kew and Hounslow loop line—and expressed a belief that a rival line is required, we trust that the Chairman's authority will be quoted in justification of the proposed scheme. In regard to a better access to the metropolis, it was stated that the company

hope to get to London-bridge by the Charing-cross Railway next month (March). No arrangement has been proposed for getting to Charing-cross, but the matter is in the hands of the traffic manager. They will also endeavour to get access to Cannon-street, as soon as the Charing-cross railway-bridge across the Thames is completed at that point.

The South-Eastern dividend is a fraction lower (£5. 16s. 8d. against £6), but the receipts are gratifying when they are set against the large continental traffic of the Exhibition year. In view of the heavy press of traffic from through trains, the directors of this line, who work the Charing-cross railway, have been compelled for the present to decline the offer of the South-Western board to run trains by the Charing-cross line between Waterloo Station and London-bridge. About 120,000 passengers were carried over the line in the first three weeks, or at the rate of 2,200,000 per annum! At present only the Greenwich and Mid Kent trains are run on to Charing-cross, the main line and North Kent trains stopping short at London-bridge. When the local passengers are enabled to enter the station at Charing-cross direct from the Strand, when the Charing-cross station is in a condition to receive the whole of the through trains of the South-Eastern Company, and more especially when the City station in Cannon-street has been completed, the traffic on the line will be of prodigious extent, even without the South-Western trains.

The Charing-cross Railway Company have, of course, no dividend to distribute. They have expended £2,544,000. They have for this sum acquired, *inter alia*, St. Thomas's Hospital, £296,000; the Hungerford-bridge tolls, £85,000; the Hungerford pier tolls, £55,000. A third line of rails has been added, the two bridges across the Thames have been widened, and a large increase of station accommodation have been provided at Charing-cross and Cannon-street. The company has provided the City Terminus Hotel Company with the site of a first-class hotel in front of the new terminal station in Cannon-street. The directors say they must go to Parliament to watch rival metropolitan projects; but the Charing-cross (Northern) and the Charing-cross (Western) lines will have their support, inasmuch as they connect the southern lines with those of the north and west.

The Great Western is late in announcing its dividend, its accounts being made up to the 31st January, and not at the close of the year. This railway, as well as the Northern and Irish railways, will probably offer a few topics for future comment. The reports and speeches of the half-yearly meetings may appear dry and repulsive to the general reader, but they really supply a most interesting chapter of social progress and commercial enterprise, as well as striking evidence of the growth of our national resources.

THE FEENIANS AND THE O'DONOGHUE.

The O'Donoghue is at war with the United Feenian brotherhood. This gallant corps, over which the spirit of the valiant "Meagher of the sword" lovingly presides, do not appear to entertain that reverence for the representative of Ireland's ancient kings which would have been natural and decent. "Meagher of the sword" has been organizing them in America, and making all things ready for that final battle day when, to the soul-stirring tune of "Erin go bragh," the United Feenians will sweep the miserable Anglo-Saxon from the face of the earth. General Meagher at present remains with the reserve. His post is with the wagons and the commissariat of the Feenian army. The advanced guard have, however, arrived in Dublin, where they may be discovered by those who choose to look for them, swearing the most awful oaths of secrecy, sharpening blunt pikes, singing national hymns very much out of tune, and frightening the correspondent of the *Times* every now and then out of his wits. Their chief grievance is the contemptuous indifference with which they are regarded by the police. It is aggravating in the extreme when gentlemen of merit are planning a revolution, to have to go on month after month, without the least acknowledgment from the threatened authorities of the land. Patriots do not mind enduring a decorous share of suffering; it is their vocation. But they do expect to be noticed, if it were only for the sake of appearances. The Feenian brotherhood have been at last roused to a public demonstration by the stinging conviction that nobody is watching their motions. And their first military operation has been directed against the O'Donoghue, whose ancient and irreparable griefs are truly aggravated by the sense that his subjects are ungrateful enough to turn against him.

The cause of the conflict dates back to a meeting in the Dublin Town Council, at which, after a stormy discussion, a

vote for a statue to Prince Albert was passed by a meagre majority. The patriots in the Town Council, headed by an Irish editor of the name of Sullivan, proposed, as an amendment, to erect a statue of their own, not, indeed, to Prince Albert, but to Grattan. The Shade of Grattan was invoked in vain by indignant orator after orator. The Town Council, as a body, respect the name of Grattan; but being on the whole sensible men, they do not see why they should use it to inflict a mortification upon their widowed Queen. The amendment, therefore, though warmly supported, was put and lost. Upon the intelligence of this awful blow to the honour of old Ireland, the heart of the O'Donoghue became exceeding sore. He was in a distant "province"—which is probably his royal way of telling us that he was in the county Kerry, brooding, perhaps, upon the fortunes of his ancestors and whetting up the sword of Fingal in all manner of out-of-the-way and lonely places. He came up in hot haste to Dublin, and straightway his followers convened a monster meeting in the Rotunda to protest, in the name of the entire Celtic race, against the new Saxon outrage. Thither repaired editor Sullivan, burning at the prospect of making another speech—a chance which never is neglected by a true patriot. Thither also went the O'Donoghue, his brain in a fever about Grattan, looking forward as usual to an ovation as soon as he showed his royal nose among his people. Thither went also, in due course, the barelegged warriors, who some day are to restore the O'Donoghue to his throne,—the orange boys of Castle-green, the car-drivers who had got no fares, and as many young Irish gentlemen of primitive personal accoutrements as could be spared from holding the horses of the "gentry" in the street. There, too, might be seen groups of some of the eminent Dublin martyrs, who, from the cut of their hair and the fashion of their clothes, seemed to have but recently fallen victims to the tyrannical laws of their country. All promised as fair as usual; not a gauger or a policeman was near to disturb the peace and amity of the proceedings. And when the beneficent eye of the O'Donoghue ranged placidly over the ranks of those who stood cracking nuts and shouting under him, perhaps a foretaste of future sovereignty came upon him, and for one brief moment he knew that he was among his own. Mr. Gill, of the *Tipperary Advocate*, opened the proceedings in a speech which, for one of the orators of what he calls a "beggared" nation, seems tolerably rich.

"In the cause of Irish freedom we are assembled here to-night on a holy occasion to repudiate on the part of the inhabitants the acts of the representatives of the capital of a beggared nation. (Cheers.) You are assembled in this historical hall—(noise and confusion)—that echoed to the voice of the volunteers of '82, and of Grattan, whose voice once echoed in this noble dome—(cheers)—to repudiate the insult offered by the corporation. I call upon you to express your feelings like men—(the remainder of the sentence was lost in the applause and uproar). You are here to-night to follow the gifted leader not only of Kerry but of Ireland. (Confusion.) Be like brothers to-night, and band together for the common cause of fatherland. (Cheers.) This is a glorious sight, it is a glorious scene; and therefore I beg of you to maintain a calm and dignified demeanour, worthy of a people who are struggling for freedom. (Loud cheers.)"

The trail of the serpent was, however, doomed, as usual, to disfigure this "glorious" paradise. Among the crowds below—seemingly undistinguished from the rest—were file on file of the dread Feenian brotherhood, also, perhaps, bare-legged, but awful and implacable. It seems, for some reason or other which none may fathom who do not know the secrets of the order, that though they hate the Saxon, they hate editor Sullivan, of the *Nation*, more. Perhaps he is a schismatic on some point of internal discipline. Perhaps he is for diplomacy and agitation, when they are for pikes, drums, green flags, and war. Be it as it may, his name excites that terrible antipathy, at the mention of which Lord Palmerston turns pale, and from which, when he takes his chamber-candlestick, he prays nightly to be preserved—the antipathy which one day is destined to overwhelm Queen Victoria and all the monarchs and tyrants of the earth. Ignorant and unsuspecting of the concealed fires over which he trod, the O'Donoghue—"the gifted leader of Ireland"—as usual, began his reign, and harangued the vast assembly. The O'Donoghue himself was in raptures. Never had there been so bright a day for Ireland's song. This was worth living for; and future ages would look back, perhaps, to that meeting of Ireland's peasant peers, as the false and faithless Saxon pretended to look back to the assembly of his barons at Runnymede, and the Magna Charta of his so-called liberties. If the O'Donoghue did not say this in so many words, he said, doubtless, something like it, and he was proceeding to say more, when a casual allusion to "his esteemed friend Mr. Sullivan" was the signal for the Feenians to arise. They arose, accordingly, in all their glory. The usual prognostics of

a thorough Irish storm were now seen. Sticks and legs of chairs began to skim the face of nature; and the whack of the shillelagh was heard at intervals here and there throughout the room. It was to no purpose that the O'Donoghue endeavoured to moderate the tempest. Like Aeolus he is accustomed to chain up his winds; but this was a whirlwind. The Feenians disregarded his revered presence, and would have proceeded to inflict palpable tokens of their disaffection on his sacred person if he had not promptly and prudently descended from his elevated post upon the table. After a hopeless attempt to make head against the rioters, the O'Donoghue—like other sovereigns of history—had to fly. His "esteemed friend" Mr. Sullivan and the clergy fled too, and *sauve qui peut* became the order of the night. The whole mass upon the platform, says an impartial spectator, were now engaged in a terrible struggle, flourishing shillelaghs, boxing, throttling, tumbling over the chairs and forms, sprawling upon the boards, kicking and yelling together. At last possession of the platform was obtained by the Feenians. Their first battle was won. They had taken the benches and tables fairly by storm, and a green table-cloth at the end of a stick waved over conquerors and conquered proclaiming that Ireland had had enough. The original speakers were supplanted and Feenian orators then addressed the mob, one of them, it is said, waving a naked sword. The statue of Grattan was proposed again. This time it was unanimously carried. The patriotic assembly voted it with all the more alacrity, as it was obvious nobody expected that there would be anything to pay.

Defeated but not dispirited, the O'Donoghue retired to a safer place, where no Feenians could follow. Next day, like Napoleon, he issued a proclamation to the Irish nation at large, informing his "fellow-countrymen" that the meeting of the night before—"magnificent in its unprecedented numbers"—had been frustrated and disturbed. This awkward termination he attributed to Saxon influence. It was "too necessary" to Ireland's enemies to be enabled to describe such a meeting as violent and turbulent, and "they were not scrupulous in gaining their end." A more withering reproach could hardly be addressed to a Feenian. To be supposed to be in the pay of the "Castle" after the physical and mental exertions of the night before is a just punishment for all who interrupted the harmony of the proceedings. When the O'Donoghue does lash his rebellious subjects, he lashes them as an orator and a monarch. Finally, he proceeds to inform them that, in spite of the failure, Ireland's duty must be done. The O'Donoghue has come up from the country; and he intends to have his meeting before he goes down again; and we may anticipate another Rotunda meeting and perhaps another Feenian victory by telegraph next week:—

"You require no advice from me as to what course you should adopt. I left my home in a distant province to be amongst you last night, with but one object; the same that inspired you all—anxiety to vindicate the honour of Ireland from the suspicion of ingratitude to the memory of Henry Grattan, and the imputation of servility to anti-Irish influences. I shall as readily take my place by your side again in whatever effort you may make for the accomplishment of that glorious purpose. Fellow-countrymen, your enemies will seek to exult over their fancied triumph of last night, and will endeavour to make of it a reproach of discord and a charge of inability on our part to deport ourselves like men capable of conducting their own affairs. But you will overcome such futile taunts. In the days of O'Connell you encountered attempts like that of last night, and you crushed them. You vindicated your right to free public meeting then, as it is incumbent upon you now to do. The eyes of Ireland were fixed upon your meeting of last night, for the heart of Ireland is set upon the duty there was before you; and deep will be the grief of millions of your countrymen when it is told that an organised disturbance converted that magnificent demonstration into a scene of discreditable and dangerous confusion."

"In conclusion I will only remind you that you have still a great duty to perform towards yourselves and to Ireland.—I remain, fellow-countrymen, your faithful servant,

"O'DONOGHUE."

Why the O'Donoghue imagines that the right of free public meeting requires any new vindication it is not easy to determine. Nobody interfered as far as the authorities were concerned. The patriots had it all to themselves, and Ireland last Monday in the Rotunda was undisturbed and alone. If the Feenians chose to break Editor Sullivan's head, it can hardly be imputed to the tyranny of the Government; nor if people quarrel among themselves does it follow as a necessary consequence that they are oppressed. We do not envy the royal monarch his position. Like many well-meaning fanatics he finds too late that he is not violent enough for the ruffians of his party. They mean a revolution of pikes; and he is merely for a revolution of rose-water. The Feenian brotherhood, moreover, are Americanized. They do not understand all the family sentiments about Fingal with which the

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O'Donoghue administers sweet consolation to himself. Possibly it has come to this—that by the advanced champions of Young Ireland he is regarded as effete. It was the lot of the Girondists. It is the lot of timid people who meddle with anarchy. They invariably end by burning their fingers. The O'Donoghue was never destined to play a great part in the history of his times. It is now tolerably clear that he never was made to play a wicked one; and the sooner he comes to that wholesome conviction the better it will be for the peace of mind both of himself and of his friends.

THE PIRATES OF THE "FLOWERY LAND."

THE tragedy of Monday last recalls perhaps to some older men now living the Newgate scenes which were more common in the days of our fathers and our grandfathers. For thirty-six years London has seen no such sight. The wretched and sickening spectacle was only tolerated this week because of its imperative necessity, for strict justice towards the murderer in the long run is mercy towards society. The rough and hybrid crews of vessels which, though nominally English, never approach these shores, know little law; and appreciate only the plainest lessons. Many a wretched sailor's life on board hangs by a thread. The English merchant service is itself in reality a *colluvies gentium*. Ships engaged at a distance in the foreign trade are usually manned by a complement of men, who, it may be, neither speak our own language nor have a single feeling in common with us. Malays, Chinamen, half-cast Spaniards, Italians, Greeks, Egyptians, all mixed together by the fortune of the seas, and talking a barbarous *patois* that would be only half understood in any European port; these are the crews that navigate the ocean under England's flag and English papers. Awful tyranny, cruelties, such as it is only given to fierce and unreclaimed vagabonds to devise, bestiality, lawlessness, and misery, are often the rule and not the exception in such an occupation.

Often—but how often remains a secret with the deep itself—murder stalks with a ghastly boldness across the deck: now releasing the tortured victim of oppression from his burden of life, and at other times inflicting retributive vengeance on the oppressor. It is for the sake of the long and dreary hours spent by unhappy seamen on the deep seas hundreds of miles away from any land, or from any controlling eye, that London has endured the pollution of such a spectacle. No Englishman, high or low—from the judge on the bench of the Old Bailey to the ordinary villain who stands below,—has or can have the least conception of the kind of miscreant to whom this terror is meant to be addressed. There are, no doubt, masses in England altogether out of the reach of the sympathies or influence of the educated classes of society—abandoned men, women, and children, whom charity seldom reaches and to whom religion is a thing unknown. Even these have ties among themselves which they acknowledge, and social restrictions of however rude a character. It is different upon the seas. There men who are to roam together have hardly the connecting link of a common enterprise. Their few months or weeks over they will drift away into fresh sinks of iniquity, having gained only some new and brutal experience by their last voyage. From such a class the unhappy men are drawn who suffered last Monday upon the scaffold; and to such a class their ignominious end speaks.

The details of the scene have been painted with more horrible power than usual by the newspaper press. We prefer to believe that in the almost pictorial descriptions that have been given by correspondent upon correspondent, the object has not been to pander to any mere taste for sensations. If there ever was an execution that it is a mercy to make notorious it was this. Perhaps it may at some critical and lonely hour strengthen the terror with which the name of some British consul is regarded by the villainous offcasts of the seas. Nor can it be said that the men who died on Monday died in heroic guise. The murderers of the day in this country frequently display upon the gallows an indifference and a callousness that arises less from ferocity than from ignorance of what death is. The miserable criminals who never hesitated about shedding blood wholesale upon the *Flowery Land* showed, when they came to die, how little was their nerve when it was a question of dying like dogs amidst the execrations of a mob. There was little courage, and, strange to say, less bravado in their demeanour, as they cowered in a row upon the brink of death. Lopez, the man who had planned all the murders and executed at least one, came out of his cell alone with a defiant air. Before the end of a few minutes he shook almost to falling, his lips were

parched, his hands clasped and pinched one another, and his eye wore the frightened look of an animal just before its death. Duranno, whose crime seemed the cruelest of all, was deadly pale, and trembled and shivered limb by limb. Blanco—a giant in physical strength, who had struck down the mate, and who made it his boast that he had flung him while praying for mercy into the sea, who stabbed the sleeping captain, and beat to death the captain's brother—came forth, says a spectator of the scene, "as if the very agony of death was on him,"—so strongly did he show his fear. Raw spirits were given him on his way to the scaffold, and yet, even with this, the rope was no sooner put about his neck than he fainted, and had to be propped up in a chair till the drop fell. A terrible and sickly scene! There was nothing in it to move admiration even among the most hardened of their species. It recalled none of the days when bold highwaymen, amid the laughter and congratulations of their friends and the nosegays of their women, were drawn jaunty and defiant to Tyburn, encouraging one another and encouraged by the crowd. When the five men on Monday were led out to death, the swooning agony that came upon them was the agony of men who knew well that they died the outcasts that they had lived, and that no living thing would shed one tear when they were gone.

The most wretched consideration connected with a most wretched spectacle is that there is scarcely a way of reaching the class of criminals to whom these five ruffians belonged, except by brute fear, and that even this argument makes itself heard but faintly. Thousands of unhappy men who have been from their childhood enemies of mankind, this hour are living the kind of life that was the life on board the *Flowery Land*. There seems no hope for humanity in respect of them. No philanthropist can ever reach them, for they form a world to which there is no access. There are some evils in the world which seem irreparable, and all that man can do in an ordinary way is to banish thought of them. Life is full of misery; but no misery or wickedness is probably so intense or so unchecked as that which is the lot of those most interested in the fate of the five pirates who last Monday paid the penalty of their misdeeds.

MR. GLADSTONE'S INSURANCE BILL.

WHEN we have conceded the benevolence of Mr. Gladstone's intention to grant life assurances for sums not exceeding £100, we have said all that can be said in its favour. On the other hand, if we even pass over the serious objection that Government proposes, by this measure, to enter into competition with the insurance companies, there are others which must be fatal to it. In establishing Post-office savings banks there was a clear and defined duty to be discharged, involving the simplest routine, and unlikely to give rise to difficult questions of good faith, or to open a door to fraud. Nothing could be less complicated than the routine, and there was at hand a machinery already existing, and most appropriate in every respect for the object in view. The postmaster of a town might readily be converted into a banker. He was already engaged in the work of receiving and transmitting money from one person to another, and all that was requisite to enable him to discharge his new duty was to make him transmit the money of the depositor to the Postmaster-General and give the depositor a receipt. Nothing could be more simple. But now it is intended to use the same machinery for a totally different purpose—one for which it has the single qualification of numerical advantage, and no other. We have between two and three thousand money-order offices in the country, which, by the employment, perhaps, of an extra clerk in each, we have converted into savings banks. The Chancellor of the Exchequer seems inclined to extend their use, and convert them into insurance offices. To do this, however, something more than an additional clerk is necessary. Any one who has insured his life knows the precautions which a company takes before it grants him a policy. It requires reputable references as to his health and habits, past and present. He is examined by one of our most skilful physicians and goes personally before the board, who question him as to his residence and occupation, his means of enjoying exercise and fresh air; and see for themselves, as far as his exterior appearance can guide them, whether they are about to insure a good life or a bad one. If these preliminaries are necessary in the case of private companies, they will be more necessary for the class of policies which Government proposes to grant. Companies deal mainly with the middle and upper classes, whose lives have the advantage of greater comfort, and whose habits under the restraint of their social position are more regular and conducive to prolonged life than those of the

poor. The medical test will thus be a prime essential before granting a Government policy; and say that two thousand savings banks are converted into insurance offices, a staff of two thousand medical examiners will have to be appointed. It is suggested that there is already such a staff in existence in the Union doctors. These, however, without disparagement to their professional qualifications, cannot be accepted as substitutes for the picked physicians who are in the employment of the companies. But even if they are equal to the work, their services will be a costly addition to the machinery of the savings banks; to be still further increased by the staff of clerks which will be necessary to record the frequent instalments of premiums paid by the insurers.

But where are we to find the substitute, in the case of Government policies, for the supervision exercised by the directors of a company? To the directors, physician, secretary, and clerks are responsible. They test the value of the insurer's references; they bring him personally before them; they have, too, an immediate and monied interest in seeing that none but good lives are insured. There is no precaution which they do not take against deception, either at the time of granting a policy, or of finally discharging their obligations under it. Who is to take their place and discharge their essential duties under the Government scheme? There is only the postmaster, unless he is to be associated with a salaried assistant; and even so, the substitute will not give a tenth part of the security provided by the board of directors. Yet in this case much greater security is requisite. The temptation to insure bad lives will cease to be personal to the insurer only, and will become in every parish one of public interest. A labourer dies, and his wife and children, deprived of his support, fall back upon the rates. In one week they may cost the parish as much as would have insured the husband's life for £100 for a year. The inference is self-evident. It will be for the interest of ratepayers, guardians, and overseers, that every man in the parish whose family is likely to come upon the rates in the event of his death, should have his life insured. Here is a door open to endless evil. In the locality interested in his obtaining a policy the assurer will find references, and an easy passport from the Union doctor. We all know what sums have been spent in the endeavour to shift the burden of a pauper from one parish to another under the law of settlement; and it is not to be supposed that less zeal will be displayed in throwing the burden of maintaining his widow and orphans upon the Government.

If we add to these objections the difficulty of identifying the holders of policies amongst a class of the population more subject than their wealthier neighbours to remove from one part of the country to another, and the possibility of fraudulent claims, which such a condition renders not unlikely, we see that there is a very strong case against Mr. Gladstone's scheme, apart from its interference with the ordinary course of insurance business. But, upon this ground, too, the case may fairly be rested. Many insurance offices already accept premiums quarterly, and at least one by eight instalments in the year. To extend their business in the direction of small insurances they have been at great expense; and it is manifestly unfair, when they have made this sacrifice, that Government should come into competition with them. But there is yet another interest at which Mr. Gladstone's proposal directs a hostile aim. It strikes at the root of the friendly societies, which, with all their faults, have done incalculable good service in combining the working classes in efforts at frugality and mutual assistance. Mr. Gladstone's bill may give them a safer investment for their pence, but it will do much to break up the bond of fellowship which their societies have created, and put an end to its civilizing influences. We cannot but regard this as a very great evil. We are not blind to the defects of these societies, but they are by no means ineradicable, nor is it well that their cure should be taken out of the hands of the people themselves. On the other hand, they have done immense good in elevating the character of the working classes, in reforming their habits and teaching them the lesson of self-respect, of independence, and mutual help. We see how deeply all this has been appreciated in the fact that, in spite of many blunders and some deceptions, they number among their members a million of the population. Are they an institution to be lightly interfered with? Will it be well to pull to pieces—and that will be the result if the Government scheme obtains a material success—a system which, over and above the gains we have mentioned, has won for the poor the respect of the rich, together with their advice and not infrequently their assistance,—breaking down that division which in past times has been a source of misunderstanding on one side and disaffection on the other?

CAB MEN AND CAB LAWS.

The proprietors and drivers of London cabs have, during the last three years, formed themselves into associations for their mutual protection, and combined to agitate for the redress of their grievances. Once a year, at least, in the after-dinner speeches of these societies, and sometimes at meetings which have been expressly convened for that purpose, we hear statements of what these classes require, as well from the legislature and from the administrators of the law, as from the public whose convenience they serve. A conviction is indeed now generally spreading, that there are two sides to the cab question as to every other. We cannot say that the common complaints of incivility and extortion are wholly unfounded; nor do we affirm that the London cabman is always a model of propriety and of good behaviour; but we must admit that there are some circumstances attendant upon his calling which deserve our sympathy, or at least our serious consideration on his behalf. Labouring, as he does, for sixteen hours daily, in rain and frost, as well as in sunshine, driving up and down or waiting in the open streets, deprived of the comforts of home and family, unable perhaps once to hear the sound of his children's voices, or even to see them awake, from week to week,—with very few days of rest, and all this for a bare scanty subsistence, even in summer, too often succeeded by grinding poverty in the winter, it is hardly to be expected that the cabman should afford a choice example of the graces of the "gentle life." But in spite of these adverse conditions, we are glad to learn that, apart from those petty artificial offences which were created by the Hackney Carriage Acts, there is less positive crime amongst cabmen—so says Mr. Deputy-Assistant-Judge Payne—than exists amongst any body of mechanics of equal numbers. Moreover, there is an earnest spirit of improvement animating many of these men. The cabmen's clubs have effected a great change in their habits. From six to seven hundred of the drivers are reckoned to be members of Christian churches, and the ranks of those who, desiring a seventh day's rest, hold a licence not to work on Sundays, become fuller every year. The determination still gathers strength among them, that cab-driving shall, with all its disadvantages, become a reputable as well as useful employ-

ment. It needs no extraordinary penetration to discover that many of the causes of complaint of the public against cabmen arise from the uncertainty of the law. Matters were sufficiently incomprehensible before the passing of the Fitzroy Act, in 1853, but by that measure "confusion was worse confounded." The framer of the Act himself had never been connected with cabs, and knew comparatively little of the working of cab customs. His attempt to regulate the proceedings of a large body of cab-owners, and of some ten thousand drivers, undertaken without consideration of the requirements of the trade, has given rise to great inconveniences in practice. New offences were created without any penalties being attached, and there are some provisions which, if pushed to the extreme, would make the Act inoperative. We will give an example. Every cab-driver receives a driving licence from Sir Richard Mayne, and on the inside pages columns are placed for the employers' signatures, and for the dates of commencing and terminating employment. During the employment of any driver, his licence is held by his employer, who is bound by the Fitzroy Act to enter therein his own name and the dates we have specified. But there is no penalty attached to the violation of the Act in this particular, and a few years back the signature of licences fell into disuse. Cab-owners found, however, that something was necessary to be done for their protection against careless and dishonest drivers, and a number of them, forming an association, resolved to sign the licences of *bad men only*, as a secret token of disfavour, so as to give to the two signatures of any man's licence the effect of a sentence of outlawry. By this contrivance a man's character might be destroyed by two irresponsible employers, who, while they deprived him of the opportunity of getting a livelihood, would yet proceed against him for non-payment of moneys for cab-hire. By a recent order, however, of Sir Richard Mayne's, the signature of a driver's licence by every employer is declared to be compulsory; but as no punishment can be inflicted on the breakers of this law, while compliance with the Commissioner's order is generally recommended, it is known to be purely optional.

Latterly, the combined experience of cab-owners and cab-drivers has been applied to the task of producing a Bill that will be capable of being enforced if adopted by the legislature. Meetings of both classes of men were held for the election of delegates to a united committee. The delegates themselves held more than forty meetings, and as their work progressed, portions of it were fully discussed at general meetings of their constituents. Nearly a year of such labour has resulted in the preparation of a measure containing sixty-seven clauses, and comprehending nearly every disputed point. The principal supporters of the Cabmen's Club Aid Society, and several members of the House of Commons, have been consulted in the framing of the Bill. It is not yet decided whether the Bill is to be introduced into Parliament as an independent scheme, or whether all or any considerable portion of its provisions will be embodied in a Government measure. It affords, however, so clear an insight into the wants of the cab trade, that it is worth our while to examine its details.

The Bill, then, proposes entirely to get rid of the metal badge now worn by cabmen, and to substitute for it a duplicate of the licence to drive, which is to be produced by the cabman whenever required. A single book of fares and distances is to be issued,

at the price of one shilling ; and all appeals are to be made to the declarations, as to distances and other matters, of the Commissioners of Police. At present, between the sometimes erroneous figures of the authoritative "book of fares," and the measurements made by magisterial order, the cabman, who is bound by both, frequently suffers wrong. A general increase of the penalties for any breach of the law is proposed ; and every clause making an offence names the punishment also. The securities afforded by legislation for the good character of the cabman are to be strengthened and increased. The proprietor of a cab is to be held liable for the value of luggage lost from his cab only to the amount of £5, unless the property is declared to be worth a greater sum, and it be previously insured for a definite amount. Great complaint has been made by cabmen of the injustice of being compelled to leave a standing where one may have waited in his turn several hours for an engagement, and this for sixpence only. There is a general willingness to have, instead of the sixpenny one-mile fare to begin with, a two-mile fare, chargeable at one shilling for the whole or any part of it. But by the proposed Act the fares will remain just as at present, except for the first mile of any hiring, and for this one shilling will be charged.

Among the alleged grievances of the cabman which it is proposed to remedy, is the fact that he does not stand on the footing of an ordinary civilian when he is not actually in the pursuit of his calling. The cabman, be it observed, sustains a triple character. He is a hirer, borrowing from a proprietor a cab for an agreed sum *per diem*. He is a servant, being open to discharge by the cab owner ; and his master (*i.e.*, the cab owner) is liable to be sued for the declared value of any injury to property or person the man may directly cause or commit. He is, further, a public servant, engaged by the Police Commissioners and subject to their directions, before he can become the servant of a proprietor or the hirer of a cab, and his licence is a register of his conduct, and may be revoked at the pleasure of the Chief Commissioner. A story is told of a cabman returning home from his employment at an early morning hour, while passing through St. John's Wood, being assaulted by a police constable, whose courage, heightened by intoxication, had overcome his sense of duty. In the combat that ensued, the cabman proving himself the stronger or more sober man, gained possession of the constable's staff and rattle and threw them away ; but the policeman's cry for help was responded to by a witness only of the last part of the struggle. The case was brought before a magistrate later in the morning, and upon the constable's testimony the man was convicted. Had a private gentleman been thus assaulted, without doubt his defence would have resulted in an acquittal, and the constable would have been severely reprimanded. Even had the man assaulted been a bricklayer, his word might have been taken against that of a drunken policeman ; but, being a cabman, his defence was not credited, he was committed to prison, and, in addition, the conviction was marked on his licence, and the licence was shortly afterwards revoked. Now, let it be borne in mind that in every case—even when by the conflict of authorities the cabman ignorantly or unavoidably breaks the law—the magistrate destroys his character by marking his licence. It must be admitted that the proposal is only fair and just that a cabman's licence shall not be revokable for any offence committed away from his employment, except in case of felony.

The Bill, moreover, settles the long doubtful question, whether a child should be reckoned as a person in a cab. Magistrates have differed upon this point, and their decisions are conflicting. Two children were to be charged for as one person ; but some magistrates ruled that one child was therefore *not* a person—was, in fact, nothing. Yet the cabman who refused to carry a child, because a child was nothing, and he could claim nothing for carrying nothing, was fined. Not until a case was carried up on appeal to the Court of Queen's Bench, was a decision obtained in accordance with common sense. This Bill affirms it to be the law.

Lastly, there comes the question, What shall be done with property left in a cab or hackney carriage ? Before the Fitzroy Act came into operation, property left in a cab, and taken within twenty-four hours to the nearest police-station, became the cabman's, if unclaimed by the owner, at the expiration of twelve calendar months. Some such regulation obtains, under legislative sanction, with railway companies and common carriers. But, as things go at present, whatever property is left in a cab never lawfully becomes the property of the cabman. At the expiration of generally two years (the law directs one year) from the delivery of property to the police, the finder is informed by circular, that on making personal application at the chief police-office, he will receive a reward for his honesty ; the reward consisting, we may state, of one shilling, or one shilling and sixpence (not enough to pay for the trouble of going for it), according as the value of the property when sold is found to be more or less than eight, or more or less than twenty shillings. Property left in London cabs is sold periodically at a City auction mart, not one hundred yards from Cannon Street. Some amusing anecdotes are current among the cabmen in illustration of this system. More than two years having expired from the finding of a half sovereign in a cab, some inquiries were addressed by the finder to the divisional superintendent and to the Commissioners of Police. The answer received from the Commissioners was, that the cabman had not already been rewarded because the article of property *had not been sold*. A medicine bottle, however, in value one farthing, brought the honest cabman who gave it to the police one shilling. But the delivery of a silk umbrella, a valuable overcoat, or a silver watch, would have secured for him the same sum, or perhaps sixpence more. What becomes

of the proceeds of the auction sales is an unrevealed mystery. The new Bill increases the penalty for detaining property from five to twenty pounds, gives the finder one fifth (prior to 1853 a third share was given) of the value of property claimed by the owners, and gives to the cabman every article not claimed within twelve months.

It will be seen that the cabmen do not ask for an entire change of the laws by which they are controlled, but for the consolidation of the Acts relating to them, and for an equitable adjustment of their rights and responsibilities. We are of opinion that the public will not consent to the abandonment of the driver's badge, or to the proposal to make the owners of property left in cabs pay one-fifth of its value. But, on the whole, the cabman's demands are moderate, and his wrongs should be promptly redressed. The laws should be fuller and clearer than at present, and less arbitrary power should be left in the hands of the police. Had any other than a cabman been frozen to death under a Police Commissioner's order that cabmen should always sit on the boxes of their vehicles, what a storm of popular indignation would have arisen ! If the petty interference in such matters be restrained, and if some common sense be manifested in the making and in the administration of the law, we may anticipate that cab-driving will yet become the occupation of a respectable and well-behaved class of men.

RELIEF FOR THE DANES.

If we are not to give the Danes the assistance which a great nation would be glad to render to a weak and oppressed one, if it could do so without making bad worse, there is nothing to keep us from rendering them something more tangible than admiration or condolence. Much reason is there, on the contrary, why we should take every means open to us to lessen, as far as may be, the impression on their minds that we have somewhat shabbily discharged our obligations towards them. Such a means is at hand. A number of Danish ladies living in England, with Mademoiselle de Bille at their head, have formed themselves into a committee for the purpose of raising a fund for the relief of the sick and wounded soldiers of the Danish army, and also of their widows and orphans. Whatever obstacles our Government finds in the way of realizing Lord Palmerston's assurance, that, if the Danes were attacked, they would not find themselves alone in their contest, there are none to hinder us from assuaging the sufferings of the little army which morally has more than triumphed over the vast forces opposed to it, and whose patient and unshaken fortitude under overwhelming odds has won it glory in defeat and covered its enemies with shame. The appeal now made to our countrymen is one which has never in a good cause been made in vain ; and it is only necessary for us to point out the channels through which subscriptions may flow. The treasurer of the fund is Mr. A. Westenholz, 26, Mark-lane, E.C. The secretaries are Miss Frederica Rowan, 3, Fulham-place, Maida-hill, W. ; the Rev. J. Plenge, 33, Great Coram-street, Russell-square, W.C. ; and the Rev. James Mansell, 7, York-street, Portman-square, W. Contributions will also be received by Messrs. Smith, Payne, and Smith, London, and Messrs. Barnet, Hoare, and Co., London.

"THE ANTI-GERMAN TOAST."

To which side in the Danish war the sympathies of Royal personages in this country lean has naturally been a subject of private speculation ; but we are not aware that, with the exception of Mr. Hennessy, M.P., any member of either House of Parliament has given expression to it publicly. In the *Morning Advertiser*, however, of Tuesday week we find a paragraph, with the heading given above, which, as it has been made matter for comment, we reproduce in the words of our contemporary :

"On Saturday week the Guards invited the Prince of Wales to dinner at Windsor. In the course of the banquet one particular toast, which might with much propriety be said to have been the toast of the evening, was proposed with great gusto by the youthful Royal guest. We do not think it right to give the toast in the exact words in which it was proposed, but deem it better simply to state that it invoked precisely the same doom, in the North Sea, on the Germans who are in Holstein and Schleswig, which befel the Egyptians in the Red Sea when pursuing the Children of Israel. We will only add that the officers of the Guards drank the toast amid plaudits worthy of the emphatic manner in which the youthful proposer submitted it to the company. If the German invaders of the Duchies are destined to experience the fate which the Royally-proposed toast 'imprecated' on them, the finny inhabitants of the North Sea will be furnished with food enough for some time to come."

The *Globe*, referring to this paragraph, treated it slightly, as unworthy of notice, but for the possibility that it might be quoted and believed abroad ; and proceeded to say "the story is absolutely without foundation." Thus challenged, the *Advertiser* promptly took up the gage, saying, "we emphatically reaffirm the truth of our statement."

"We do so (it continued) from the very best information, derived from several sources ; and should the *Globe* persist in its denial of the accuracy of our paragraph, we shall be more specific. In the meantime, suffice it to say, that the terms in which the toast alluded to was proposed were, as may have been inferred from the wording of our paragraph, much stronger than we described them to be. It is due to our evening contemporary to state that he does not charge us with

originating the story of 'The Toast.' He admits that 'the piece of gossip was going about,' and that we have only given it 'currency.' But we should not have felt it right to give the story 'currency,' had we not been assured of its accuracy. We repeat, therefore, that all we stated on the subject, and a good deal more, is strictly true."

The *Globe* has not repeated its denial; and there the matter rests.

FRENCH RAILWAYS.

In 1861, a commission, under the presidency of M. Michel Chevalier, was appointed to inquire into the working of French railways; and in consequence of its report, M. Behic has just addressed a circular to the railway companies, requiring them to carry into effect most of the improvements recommended in that document. Some are borrowed from our English railways; others might well be adopted by them. The Minister demands that means shall be established for enabling guards of trains in motion to communicate with the engine-drivers; he recommends, in order to prevent accidents at junctions of different lines, the adoption of a set of signals in use on the Northern Railway, as the best yet discovered; he orders that, within six months from the present time, every locomotive fed with coal shall be furnished with an apparatus which will make it consume its smoke; he requires that separate compartments for women shall be reserved in third-class carriages, as well as in first and second; he requests that the speed of express trains shall be increased so as to approach 34 to 38 miles an hour without stoppages, and that of mixed direct trains, 25 miles; and he directs that greater despatch shall be used in the conveyance of goods—125 miles a day instead of 78—and that they shall be delivered more quickly. In addition to these reforms, which he has the power to insist upon, M. Behic recommends others with regard to which he has no such power. Amongst the latter are—an increase in the number of trains, the establishment of express trains where they do not exist, the admission of passengers into goods trains, the warming of second and third-class carriages in winter, and a reduction of fares for passengers going long distances and of charges for goods sent in great masses. The Minister concludes by remarking that companies as a rule cannot fail to gain by being "large and liberal in their relations with the public, and" that "there is less antagonism than is thought between the interests of their shareholders and those of the public."

THE HON. JANE YELVERTON.

On Saturday morning last, between two and three o'clock, the body of a woman was found lying in the gutter of one of the back slums of Douglas, Isle of Man, half naked, and frozen to death—"the stinking and half-frozen refuse-water," says the *Liverpool Mercury*, "flowing over and around her." This was the Hon. Jane Yelverton, widow of Augustus Yelverton, who was brother to Lord Avonmore, and uncle of the disreputable major, the story of whose marriage is well known. The humble origin of the Avonmore family seems to have left in their blood a predilection for low associates and equally low habits; for the Hon. Jane whom Augustus took for wife five-and-twenty years ago was *née* Jenny Keefe, a low-born woman, not at all of the "gentle blood" which would meet the nephew's approval. She was the third wife of her husband, who had married first a Spanish and afterwards an Irish lady; but found in Jenny a nature so congenial and tastes so harmonious, that when one was sent to gaol for drunken and disorderly conduct, the other would smash a window or make some disturbance in the streets, in order to be committed to gaol also, and so be restored to each other's company. These committals were pretty frequent. The High Bailiff of Castletown, who held the inquest upon Jenny, said that he had committed them to prison fully a hundred times. Vice and misery—and they scarcely had a place to lay their heads in, but lived the greater portion of their time either in the streets or in prison—had the rare effect of making them more and more attached to each other. At last the Hon. Augustus died of consumption in a low lodging-house in Liverpool. Jenny went to Douglas, and some two months afterwards, a few hours before she was found dead, was seen standing in a house-door close to the gutter which was to be her death-bed, trolleying out in a voice husky with drink the street ballad, "True blue for ever." Though her husband had left money enough to support her, which she received by instalments through a Liverpool solicitor, her passion for drink was so devouring that she seems to have parted with almost every rag of clothing to indulge it. Her dress, when she was found dead, was an old gauze frock, which did not reach to her knees and was no thicker than a piece of paper, an old pair of socks that just reached above her ankles, and a pair of thin slippers—the night piercingly cold, with a hard frost. And so died the Hon. Jane Yelverton.

RUSSIAN ABDUCTION OF A POLISH LADY.

The Patrie gives the particulars of the abduction by two Russian officers, of Miss Neumann, sister of a surgeon at Warsaw, a lady famous for her beauty. Having no other means of obtaining access to her, they resolved to possess her by force of arms. One night, after summoning several policemen who were stationed in the street, they entered her brother's house, on the pretext of searching for insurgents, seized her, and carried her off. No one knows, not even the Director of the City Police, what has become of her. But the act has naturally excited

universal indignation. "It will be easily conceived," says the *Patrie*, "that such an event has produced an indescribable sensation here. No one is safe against this species of violence, and all are exposed at any time to see their wives or their daughters taken from their houses at night on some imaginary charge. This is, however, but a natural consequence of the régime introduced by General Berg, who has outraged all the rights of humanity by driving from their homes, and sending to banishment, the most worthy and respectable ladies in the city, whose only crime is that they are Poles."

LEGAL INSANITY.

At the last meeting of the Juridical Society Dr. Forbes Winslow, who took the chair, suggested that, instead of the charge now usually given to juries in criminal cases where insanity is set up as a defence, the following should be substituted:—

"Was the prisoner insane when he committed the crime, such insanity being the effect of a disorder of the brain; and was he, in consequence of this mental and physical condition, incapable at the time of exercising a healthy control over his thoughts and actions?"

The meeting at which this suggestion was thrown out was held to discuss a paper by Mr. J. W. Hume Williams on "The legal notion of unsound mind constituting irresponsibility for crime, as exemplified in the case of George Victor Townley." And it is important as furnishing the first attempt of any physician of eminence to formulate the medical theory of legal insanity.

The Daily News says that Victor Emmanuel, replying to a clerical deputation the other day, is reported to have said:—"I am aware a report is circulated of my being on ill terms with the Holy Father, from whom I nevertheless again received, during the past year, further proofs of affection on the occasion of my daughter's marriage. His Holiness has invited me to Rome. I will add that I am in correspondence with him, and that I have good hopes that the time is not far distant when all differences will disappear."

On Thursday the *Poonah* arrived at Southampton, bringing amongst her passengers, their Excellencies Rainandrain and Rainferingia, ambassadors from the court of Madagascar to Great Britain. They are of the Malagash tribe, are short, stout, middle-aged men dressed in European costume. They speak a little English. Their complexions are dark; they have thick lips, and very little hair on their faces. One of them is a singularly jovial, pleasant-looking man. They are accompanied by the Rev. Mr. Duffus, who acts as interpreter.

MAJOR-GENERAL PORTLOCK, R.E., LL.D., F.R.S., died on the 14th instant at Black Rock, near Dublin. General Portlock was an officer of the Royal Engineers, and, by his works on geology, contributed much to the advancement of that science. In the years 1856 and 1857 he presided over the Geological Society, and, until his health gave way, was actively employed as a member of the Council of Military Education, having previously acted as Inspector of Studies of the Royal Military Academy of Woolwich.

The Hants Advertiser states that the contents of an old chest kept over the west gate of the city of Winchester is being examined by the Rev. Mr. Collier, M.A. Already a charter of Henry IV., granting 40 marks for 40 years to Winchester, has been discovered in good preservation.

A MOVEMENT is on foot in Westminster for the purpose of securing the return of Sir John Romilly, the Master of the Rolls, as member for the city at the next general election. The Master of the Rolls is the only judge who is at liberty to hold a seat in the House of Commons.

A RECENT officer of the *Alabama* states that she has the very best telescopes, and that a look-out man is always kept at the mast-head. As soon as the faintest symptom of a sail is described, Captain Semmes goes to the masthead himself, and if there is the slightest probability that the stranger is a man-of-war, the *Alabama* is driven with full steam on out of sight.

THE Danish frigate *Neils Juel* has established a regular running blockade off Plymouth and Falmouth, steaming to and fro, overhauling all doubtful vessels, and standing in for either port. She returned on Monday afternoon to Plymouth for coal, without having effected any capture.

The Manchester Examiner gives a curious bit of London gossip. The two sons of Baron Lionel Rothschild, though proposed by Earl Russell and Lord Granville, were within the month blackballed at Brookes's.

A NEW Conservative club, called the Junior Carlton Club, is about to be established. The trustees are Lords Derby, Malmesbury, and Colville, Mr. Disraeli, and Colonel Taylor.

MR. KERR SEYMER has resigned his seat for Dorsetshire on account of infirm health, and Mr. Floyer, formerly M.P. for that county, has issued an address in the Conservative interest.

Dr. LANKESTER held an inquest last week on an infant poisoned by a lozenge containing the 48th part of a grain of morphia, which had been given it for a cough. The coroner, as a warning, related the case of an infant's death having been caused by the 180th part of a grain.

The Jewish Chronicle states that Sergeant Simon is the first Jewish member of the English bar who has attained that rank.

THE Prince of Wales will take his father's place as Patron of the Archaeological Institute.

THE King of the Belgians has deferred his visit to her Majesty Queen Victoria until the christening of the infant Duke of Cornwall.

THE CHURCH.

THE BROAD CHURCH PARTY.

We have expressed in a former article our opinion as to the real force and meaning of the late judgment of the Privy Council in the matter of "Essays and Reviews," and as to the results whether for evil directly, or indirectly for good, which may be expected to follow from it.

It must be evident, however, to any of our readers, who followed our argument, or carefully considered the matter for themselves, that the effects of the judgment will depend much less on its own legal consequences (though they are by no means insignificant) than on the impression which it is calculated to produce on different men's minds, and the course of action which it may superinduce in the several sections of the Church.

We already possess some indication of what these are likely to be. Two eminent men, representatives as they may fairly be considered of the High and Broad Church parties respectively, have printed letters on the subject; and one of them, by the journal which he has selected for the channel of his communication, has brought into the discussion the acknowledged organ of the third or Evangelical section of the Church. We refer, of course, to Dr. Pusey's letter to the *Record*, and to that of Mr. F. D. Maurice to the *Spectator*. We regard each of these as important, especially Dr. Pusey's; but we shall reserve our comments upon it until our next number, because we think it probable that a more decided response than it has yet received, may in the meanwhile appear from the party to whom it is particularly addressed. For the present we confine ourselves to the letter of Mr. Maurice.

We need hardly say that this gentleman writes in enthusiastic praise of the late decision. "It will be a great blessing, especially to the younger clergy;" it is a "lucid and beautiful judgment;" it "breathes the atmosphere of a divinity not more mundane, but far more lofty than that to which our lungs are ordinarily attuned." After vainly puzzling themselves in the endeavour to discover what can possibly be the meaning of this last sentence, as applied to the "lucid" indeed, but singularly dry and legal judgment delivered by the Lord Chancellor, our readers will probably be surprised at what forms the gist of Mr. Maurice's letter. It actually is a protest against the idea that the judgment will "greatly stretch the range of dogmatic meanings by which the narrow school of theologians wish to limit the comprehension of our formularies," and a laboured assertion of the opinion that its great benefit will be to discourage "vagueness, indefiniteness, unreality, in the use of words," which he says "had increased, are increasing, and ought to be diminished." We have often wondered at the strange love of paradox which appears to possess Mr. Maurice's mind. Whatever meaning ordinary understandings would attach to any language, its exact opposite is commonly that which seems to command itself to his mind. But really in this criticism he has out-paradoxed himself. He first tells us that the Privy Council has "done an act of justice to Dr. Williams and Mr. Wilson;" and then that what the said judgment in effect says is—"We, bishops and lawyers, cannot make you think distinctly and speak distinctly by any arts which we possess." We make no demur to this interpretation of the meaning of the judgment. But we remember that the persons to whom this was said were the defendants in the trial, for the thoughts and language of no other living being were *sub judice*. And if this was virtually the language addressed to them, and followed by an acquittal, then there is a *lacuna* in Mr. Maurice's explanation of the judgment which we must take the liberty of supplying for him. Plainly he ought to have continued the language which he puts into the mouths of the judges as follows: "You have spoken so indistinctly that we are not sure you meant to contradict the Formularies of the Church. We give you, therefore, the benefit of the doubt and acquit you." In our simplicity we should have thought this would be a great encouragement to indistinct and indefinite language on the part of the writers who must have some doubt about their own orthodoxy. But, no! Mr. Maurice tells us that the proper effect of such an acquittal on such grounds is "that theologians may be led into a braver investigation of their own language and so into a more manly, more distinct, and less rhetorical employment of it in their teachings of the people." Verily, if ever logician perpetrated a *non sequitur*, Mr. Maurice is the man! It was the indistinctness of the *Essayists* which saved them. It is possible that, if they should ever venture to express in precise and dogmatic terms the conclusions at which there is reason to think some at least of their school have arrived, they may not find even the meshes of the Privy Council net wide enough to let them safe through. But, notwithstanding the illogical character of the reasoning by which Mr. Maurice has drawn his own deduction from the terms of the late judgment, we are not sure but that many (perhaps by a different process) may arrive at the same conclusion.

Take the *language* of the judgment, and it is a warning against distinctness in stating heretical opinions. But take the mere *fact* that persons who have, more or less plainly, expressed such opinions have been prosecuted, and that the prosecution has failed; then, no doubt, the conclusion which many will draw will be, "We may now say what we like without fear of prosecution." This is probably Mr. Maurice's real meaning. He acknowledges an "uncertainty, vagueness, and unreality" into which Liberals had "plunged," and which he confesses these prosecutions "were clumsy attempts

to withstand," and he expresses a hope for the future that there may be neither direct "fear of losing income or position" nor a "vague impression that what may be felt to be the divinest, most inward belief, may, after all, be at variance with some established formula which ought to be heeded." The sympathetic *Spectator*, in commenting on these expressions, declares in the same sense that the late judgment "strikes off the greatest of all reasons for studied ambiguities."

We accept both the confession that the Latitudinarian school amongst the clergy have hitherto concealed their full meaning under "studied ambiguities;" and also the hope that from Mr. Maurice at least we may henceforth expect the clear statement of his own view of subjects on which he has only at present told us negatively, that the current theology is of "no meaning" or false. We wish also that we might regard his letter as the manifesto on this point of the whole Broad Church party in its various ramifications. Let them honestly state their full convictions, and we will treat them with respectful argument, and candidly weigh what they may advance. But we protest against the ambiguities and half statements of which we have always complained. No man can answer a sneer, or defend himself or his faith against an insinuated doubt; and they who would have us surrender any, the smallest item of the old creeds of the Church, are bound to tell us clearly and without reserve what they propose for a substitute.

SAINTS AND THEIR LEGENDS.

No. 14.—ST. COLUMBA, THE APOSTLE OF THE PICTS.

WITH St. Columba we get more clearly into the domains of authentic history. A short account of him is given by Bede, not much more than a hundred years after his death, and the two lives of the saint existed some years earlier. Both are full of incredible miracles which picture Columba to us as a zealous but very superstitious visionary.

Columba was an Irishman by birth, a native of the province of Ulster, and of a family of such high nobility, that it is said to have claimed descent from the celebrated King Nial, of the Nine Hostages. Before his birth, his sanctity was announced to his mother in a vision. Each of the great Irish saints appears to have been remarkable for a particular class of miracles; for St. Patrick was especially expert at raising the dead to life, St. Bridgit was equally celebrated for miraculous supplies of provisions; and similarly St. Columba was endowed especially with the spirit of prophecy, and with that quality which in modern times is denominated second sight, for he could see what was going on at any distance, and was intimately acquainted with everybody's secret thoughts and actions. He could thus help people who were robbed by telling where the stolen property was concealed, and who were the offenders. In fact he did much in the way of revealing robberies, and his prophetic spirit was very frequently exercised in foretelling people's deaths. This prophetic knowledge and the second sight extended to the most minute particulars, which will be illustrated best by an example or two, selected from the miracles Columba performed during the period of his life which followed his establishment in Iona. One day, as he was passing by the cells of his disciples, he saw one of them named Lugbeus, reading a book—"My son," he said, "take care of that book—I foresee that you will let it fall into water." Soon afterwards, as Lugbeus was going about some other business, and carrying the book under his arm in order to take care of it, in a moment of negligence he let it slip, and it fell into a pail of water which happened to stand hard by. On another occasion, when a shout from a stranger on the other side of the narrow channel which separates Iona from Mull, announced a visitor who wished the boat of the monastery to be sent over to fetch him, Columba, who was sitting and reading in the hut which formed his cell, exclaimed, "The visitor who is coming is a clumsy fellow, for he will upset my inkhorn." His attendant, Diarmid, hearing this, kept a close watch upon his master's inkhorn, in order to protect it from the threatened accident. But in vain, for the visitor was so rough in his movements, that, as he approached the saint to obtain his kiss and blessing, he swept away the inkhorn with his cloak. One of his friends, named Baitheneus, who, in the narrative, is termed a saint, was going from Iona to Hethland, but Columba warned him that if he went there he would encounter a great danger from an enormous whale he would meet on the way. But Baitheneus persisted in his intention, remarking only, "I and the whale are equally in God's disposal." They sailed, and, as foretold, they came suddenly upon a great whale, to the terror of the crew and of the monks who attended Baitheneus, who were all in favour of a speedy return, but Baitheneus stretched out his hand, blessed the monster, which immediately disappeared, and they pursued their way without further interruption. The same Baitheneus wrote a copy of the Book of Psalms, and asked that one of the brethren might be employed to collate the manuscript, in order to correct it. "There is no need for taking that precaution," Columba replied. "for I know that there is only one error in the whole book, and that is a superfluous *i* in one word." Upon this, the manuscript was examined with the greatest care, and Columba's statement was found to be strictly correct. When once asked how he could not only see the future so well, but know distant events, Columba is said to have replied, that with one glance of his eyes he could see the whole world.

The sanctity of Columba was manifested in his childhood. His

preceptor, we are told, was a bishop named in one biography Finnlan, and in the other Findbar, and it is said that the bishop one day watching from his door his scholar coming to take his lessons, saw distinctly an angel walking by the boy's side. We have little information relating to the events of the earlier part of his life. Bede tells us that he founded a "noble monastery in Ireland named by the Irish Dearmach (Dair-magh) meaning the field of oaks;" the place is now called Durrogh, in King's County. He is said to have founded also the monastic houses of Derry in Ulster, and of Swords, near Dublin. At length he became involved in a quarrel between the Kings of Ulster and Connaught, arising, according to the legend, from the obstinacy and cruelty of the former in putting to death the son of the latter, who was his hostage, contrary to Columba's earnest admonition. A battle was fought between the two kings, in which Columba gave the victory miraculously to the King of Connaught, and a peace followed; but his position in Ireland appears now to have been made so disagreeable to him, that, after supporting it about two years, he resolved to leave his native country in order to seek a shelter in the land of the Picts. He embarked in a ship with twelve monks whom he had selected as his companions, and directed his course towards the north-western coast of Scotland.

According to Bede, this took place in the year 565, which he says was the ninth year of the reign of Bridei, son of Maileon, king of the Picts, who were then Pagans. Nevertheless, Bridei received him hospitably, and gave him the little island of Iona to build himself a cell. This island, called in later times Hy, and from the name of the saint, I-colm-kill, separated from the larger isle of Mull by a narrow arm of the sea, was then apparently an uninhabited waste, but it was destined to obtain great celebrity in the ecclesiastical history of Scotland. It is not, therefore, to be much wondered at if Satan was opposed to Columba's voyage thither; and we are informed the demons at first contested every step of ground with him. Soon after he took possession of Iona, he was one day wandering with his monks in search of a site for his monastery, when a great host of black demons, armed with iron spits (*verubus*), set upon them and sought to kill them all; but Columba resisted, and they fought during nearly the whole of the day, until at length angels came to their assistance, and the demons were defeated. Various stories are told of the activity of the demons in Iona. A lad named Columban was one day returning home from milking, and carried on his back his pail full of new milk. As he passed the door of the cell or hut, in which the saint sat writing, he asked him as usual to bless his milk. But no sooner had the saint raised his hand over the pail, than a violent explosion took place, the pail shaking in such a manner that the stick which held down the lid was torn from its two holes and thrown in one direction, while the lid itself flew to a great distance in the other, and the milk was scattered in all directions. The lad dropped his pail with what remained of his milk, fell upon his knees, and looked at it with vacant terror. It was found that the cause of this strange accident was the negligence of the lad Columban, who had that morning omitted his constant practice of making the sign of the cross over the pail before he began to milk his cows into it; the consequence of which was that a devil, which lay skulking at the bottom of the pail, had power to remain there, and nobody knows what evil he might have done if he had not been driven out by the saint's blessing in this violent and unexpected manner.

One day a very poor man of the people went to Columba and told him that himself and his wife and children were in want of food, and asked him for assistance. The saint, in compassion to him, said, "Poor man, fetch me a pole out of the neighbouring wood." The man did so, and Columba, having with his own hand cut the end to a sharp point, like a spit, and then blessed it, returned it to the man. "Take great care of this stake," he said; "it will hurt neither man nor cattle, but only wild animals and fishes; as long as you possess this you will never want venison." When the man heard this he was overjoyed, and, returning home, went to an unfrequented spot, where he fixed his stake in the ground and left it. Next morning he found a large stag impaled upon it. Thus the man and his family lived in luxury and profusion. Now this man had a foolish wife, and, after a few days, she said to him, "Take this stake out of the ground, for some man, free or servile, may be killed on it; and then I and you and your children will be condemned to slavery." The man said, "This will not happen, for God's saint has promised otherwise." But the wife gave no heed to this explanation; and at last the man, overpersuaded by her, went and took it up and placed it against the wall in his house. The first night his house-dog fell upon it and was killed. The woman would not have it in the house, but said, "One of your children will fall upon it and be killed." So the man, in obedience to his wife, took it out of the house and fixed it on the top of his thatched roof. Next morning a raven was spiked upon it. Again obeying his wife, he took it down and carried it to a very wild place in the woods, and stuck it in the middle of a bed of very thick brambles. When he went to look after it next day he found a fine doe. Still pursued by his wife's fears, he again took up the stake, and, going to the river, fixed it under the water at some distance from the bank, imagining that there at least it would be harmless. But when he went next morning to look at it again, he was astonished to find fixed upon it a salmon so large that it was as much as he could do to carry it home on his shoulder. Still tormented by the clamours of his wife, and knowing no longer where to hide his stake, the man cut it up and burned it, and he and his family fell into greater poverty and misery than ever.

In 574, Aidan became king of the Picts, and was formally inaugurated and consecrated by St. Columba, in the church of Iona. According to the lives, Columba had some strange reluctance in performing this act, for which he received correction from above. One night, when the saint was in a trance, an angel appeared to him, holding the book of the ordination of kings in his hand, and ordered him to consecrate King Aidan. Columba asked to see the book, and having read the form, refused to perform that ceremony on Aidan. The reason of his objection is not stated, but the angel beat him with a scourge so severely, that the marks of his punishment remained visible on his side all his life. The angel said, "You will know by this that I am sent by the Almighty to order you to consecrate King Aidan, and if you obey not, you shall be scourged much more severely." Yet Columba's reluctance was so great that it was not until the warning had been repeated during three nights that he yielded. In the course of the ceremony Columba broke out into prophecies relating to the fates of Aidan's children and descendants.

The lives say that Columba was forty-two years of age when he settled in Iona, so that, if we take the date of that event as given by Bede, he was born about the year 523. Bede says that he lived thirty-two years at Iona, and that he died at the age of seventy-seven, which would place his death about the year 597. He must, therefore, have believed him to have been three years older at the time of his settlement in Iona than the age given to him in the life.

St. Columba is looked upon as the Apostle of the Picts; by his exertions and those of his disciples that people were converted to Christianity; and the monastery of Iona became the mother of numerous religious houses scattered over the north of Scotland. The oldest of these was that of Abernethy, the ancient capital of the Pictish kingdom. The monks in these establishments, who followed St. Columba's rule, were called Culdees, a Gaelic word, said to have nearly the same meaning as monks, that is, persons living apart from the world.

THE SUBSCRIPTION CONTROVERSY IN THE LAST CENTURY.

[We publish this letter only as containing a narrative of an interesting epoch in the History of the Church of England.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "LONDON REVIEW."

SIR,—The debates raised last session by Lord Ebury, in the House of Lords, and Mr. Buxton in the House of Commons, on motions asking for a relaxation of the terms of subscription by candidates for holy orders, and looking to a revision of the Liturgy, were not the first debates of the kind which Parliament has been engaged in, nor is the Society for the Revision of the Liturgy the first English association which has been called into existence with this end in view. A narrative of the circumstances which gave rise to the first Parliamentary debate, and the first association of this kind, opens up an interesting chapter in the history of the Church of England, brings into the foreground the occasion of the Unitarian secession from the National Church, and throws a clear light upon the situation of Liberal Churchmen in the last century.

In the year 1693, Dr. Wallis, Savilian Professor of Mathematics at Oxford, published his "Considerations on the explications of the Doctrine of the Trinity," in which he maintained the Sabellian hypothesis in opposition to the hypothesis of three infinite minds maintained by Dr. Sherlock, which underwent a public censure. Dr. Wallis contended that "a divine person is only a mode, or respect, or relation of God to his creatures. He beareth to his creatures these three relations, modes or respects, that He is their Creator, their Redeemer, their Sanctifier: this is what we mean, and all that we mean, when we say God is three persons. He hath those three relations to his creatures, and is thereby no more three Gods than he was three Gods to the Jews, because he calleth himself the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob."

Shielded by this Sabellian cloak, many persons, lay and clerical, of Unitarian opinions lived and died in communion with the Church of England during the greater part of the eighteenth century. By adopting this method of interpretation, some clergymen reconciled their consciences to repeating the Trinitarian forms in the Liturgy and the invocations at the entrance of the Litany. Among these, on his own confession,* was, for many years, the Rev. Theophilus Lindsey, Vicar of Catterick, Yorkshire; who, however, in course of time, found that "he could not satisfy himself with Dr. Wallis's, and the like, softenings and qualifications of the Trinitarian forms in the Liturgy." In this state of mind he determined to obtain an alteration in the Liturgy of the Church of England, or resign his living.

There was another party in the Church of England dissatisfied with the Liturgy. This was the party called by their antagonists the "Soul-sleepers," who held to the tenets on the soul set forth by Dr. Edmund Law (afterwards Bishop of Carlisle), in an appendix to his "Considerations on the Theory of Religion," first published in 1755. Dr. Law held that the soul of both good and wicked men remained in an unconscious state until the Resurrection. Those members of the Church of England who embraced Dr. Law's hypo-

* See his Apology on resigning the Vicarage of Catterick, Yorkshire. First edition. London, 1773.

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thesis, found the following passage in the Burial Service of the Church a stumbling-block:—"Almighty God, with whom do live the spirits of them that depart hence in the Lord, and with whom the souls of the faithful, after they are delivered from the burden of the flesh, are in joy and felicity." Naturally they too wished a reform of the Liturgy.

Foremost among this latter party was the Rev. Francis Blackburne, Rector of Richmond, and Archdeacon of Cleveland, Yorkshire, a vigorous writer, and author of the "Confessional; or, a Full and Free Inquiry into the Right, Utility, Edification, and Success of Establishing Systematical Confessions of Faith and Doctrine in Protestant Churches," a work levelled at the very principle of subscriptions. Archdeacon Blackburne objected to many things in the Liturgy, and in particular would never read the Athanasian Creed.

These two Yorkshire clergymen, Messrs. Lindsey and Blackburne, may be regarded as representing the two parties in the Church who desired a reform of the Liturgy, and, therefore, a relaxation of the terms of subscription which pledged the candidate to conform to that Liturgy, and to give his unfeigned assent and consent to everything contained in the Book of Common Prayer.

About the end of the year 1770 Archdeacon Blackburne received an anonymous letter, purporting to come from a brother clergyman, who was desirous that a trial should be made as to whether the Legislature was disposed to release the clergy from liability to subscription, "a bondage so opprobrious to the principles and so inconsistent with the professions of the Protestant religion." Mr. Blackburne, finding by inquiry among his friends that a number of clergymen and others who felt aggrieved by the imposition were willing to unite in such an application, drew up a document which he termed, "Proposals for an application to Parliament for relief in the matter of Subscription to the Liturgy and Thirty-nine Articles of the Established Church of England, humbly submitted to the consideration of the learned and conscientious clergy of the said Church."* The bishops and "other great Churchmen" at that period took alarm and denounced the project. There was one exception, however, to this unanimity of disapprobation. Dr. Law, Bishop of Carlisle, heartily approved of the object of the proposals, and declared his readiness to support, from his seat in the House of Lords, the prayer of a petition to Parliament in harmony with the proposals.

The anti-subscribing party in the Church of England, in 1771, advertised a meeting at the Feathers Tavern, in the Strand, at which several clergymen and gentlemen of other professions were present, and an association, publicly known as the Feathers Tavern Association, was formed for the purpose of substituting a declaration of assent to the sufficiency of Holy Scripture in lieu of subscription to the Thirty-nine Articles and the Book of Common Prayer. No one threw himself more earnestly into the agitation than the vicar of Catterick, who was encouraged by it to postpone the resignation of his living, a step which he had long contemplated. A petition to Parliament was adopted by the association,† and Mr. Lindsey was one of those who undertook to procure signatures to it. For this end he travelled through the northern counties upwards of two thousand miles at the worst season of the year, and often, says his biographer, through roads which were almost impassable. His success did not correspond to his wishes. Many were the expressions of goodwill, but few the signatures. The petition was ultimately signed by about 225 persons, *the majority of whom were clergymen of the Church of England*. The rest were gentlemen of the professions of law and medicine, who thus entered their protest against the yoke of Subscription imposed upon students at the Universities who had no idea of entering into holy orders.

On the 6th of February, 1772, the petition was presented to the House of Commons, and gave rise to an eight hours' debate. The petition was introduced by Sir William Meredith, member for Liverpool; it was seconded by Mr. T. Pitt, nephew of the Earl of Chatham. The following account of the continuation of the debate is extracted from the memoirs of the Rev. Theophilus Lindsey, by the Rev. Thomas Belsham, the celebrated Unitarian minister:—

"On this Sir Roger Newdigate [one of the members for the University of Oxford] rose up in great anger, and demanded to know what the contents of the petition were, and what the number and names of the men who had subscribed it. Sir William then read the petition in his place, and a few of the names, adding that the number was about 250. Sir Roger Newdigate then began the debate, and opposed with great vehemence the bringing up of this petition. In his opinion it aimed at the destruction of the Church, whose existence depended upon the continuance of the Articles. Sir Roger spoke contemptuously of the number and quality of the petitioners, and sustained with great fortitude the character of member for Oxford. He was followed by Mr. Hans Stanley, who opposed the bringing up of the petition, as it tended to disturb the peace of the country, which, in his opinion, ought to be the subject of a fortieth article, which would be worth all the thirty-nine. He was succeeded by Mr. Fitzmaurice, who is brother to Lord Shelburne, and spoke on the same side, throwing out some very indecent reflections on 'The Confessional' and its author, and endeavouring to prove the petitioners to be a parcel of canting hypocrites, who, under pretence of reformation, meant the ruin of our civil and ecclesiastical government. This conduct roused the resentment of Mr. Pitt, who with great dignity and good sense observed upon the indecency of calumniating any persons appearing in the character of

* This document is given in the collected edition of Archdeacon Blackburne's works, vol. vii.; edited by his son. Cambridge, 1805.

† For this petition, see the volume referred to in the previous note.

petitioners for redress of grievances, more especially the persons then applying for relief in a matter that highly concerned the purity of religion, the integrity of their own minds, and even the morality of the people. He stated very well the principles of the Reformation, and fairly inferred from them the propriety of the petition.

"The motion for bringing up the petition was also supported by Lord George Germaine, Mr. Sawbridge, Mr. Thomas Townshend, Lord John Cavendish, Mr. Dunning, Sir Henry Hoghton, Mr. Solicitor-General Wedderburne, and Sir George Savile. I believe Sir George Savile's speech was one of the best that was ever delivered in that House. I can give you no idea of its excellence, unless by repeating some parts of it when I have the pleasure of seeing you. I cannot help saying, however, that I never was so affected with or so sensible of the power of pious eloquence as while he was speaking. It was not only an honour to him, but to his age and country. Mr. Solicitor-General spoke very well, and gave a very handsome testimony to the character of Mr. Blackburne as a learned, pious, virtuous, and venerable man, and vindicated his book as an excellent and entertaining performance. The speakers on the opposite side were Sir Roger Newdigate, Mr. Fitzmaurice, Lord Folkestone, Mr. Byrne, Lord North, Mr. Charles Fox, Mr. Burke, Mr. Dyson, Mr. Jenkinson, Mr. Hanley, Dr. Hay, and Mr. Cooper. Nobody but Sir Roger Newdigate attempted to defend the Articles. And all the House explicitly declared it was foolish to require Subscription at the university, and expressed a wish that it might be laid aside there.

"After a very fine debate the House divided; the numbers for not receiving the petition were 217; for receiving it, 71; which, considering the influence of the Bishops and Ministry, and the character and weight of the minority, was thought a very great affair.* The clergy petitioners were delighted with the debate, all of them that were in town being admitted to hear it."—

It was remarked at the time, that the Dissenters took very little interest in this application on the part of the clergy of the Church of England, only two of the general body of dissenting ministers being present at the debate. These two divines were the Rev. Edward Pickard and Dr. Philip Furneaux. Nevertheless the debate did not fail to bear fruit for the dissenting interest, if it bore none for the petitioners. In the course of the debate, many of the speakers who opposed the petition, and particularly Lord North, remarked, that had a similar application been made by the Dissenting clergy, who derived no emoluments from the Church whose Articles they were compelled to subscribe, they could see no reasonable objection to it. The two clergymen who heard these declarations accordingly summoned the general body of Dissenting ministers of the three denominations, who concurred in an application to Parliament the next year for relief from the obligation to subscribe the Articles of the Established Church, in order to secure the benefits of the Toleration Act. A bill based upon their memorial was twice passed by the Commons and twice rejected by the Lords; but a few years afterwards, in the year 1778, the temper of the times becoming more favourable, the bill for their relief passed both houses almost unanimously, and received the royal assent.

There was, however, one of the petitioners who could not rest satisfied with the glory of having provoked a few brilliant speeches in the House of Commons—that man was the Rev. Theophilus Lindsey. This gentleman, failing in the attempt to obtain relief from the Legislature, resigned his living on the 1st January, 1773, and at the same time published "An Apology" for his conduct, which speedily ran through several editions, and is still a standard work with the English and American Unitarians. The majority of the petitioning clergy disapproved this step of Mr. Lindsey, especially so did Archdeacon Blackburne. Several of the Unitarian party in the Church—Dr. Chambers, Rector of Achurch, in Northamptonshire, for example—altered the Liturgy to suit their own views, and were not molested by their ecclesiastical superiors. A few others, among whom Drs. Jebb and Disney were most notorious, followed Mr. Lindsey's example, and threw up their preferences in the Church.

Mr. Lindsey was powerfully supported by Drs. Priestley and Price, and many other persons, both of the Established and Dissenting Churches. He was encouraged to come up to London and open a Unitarian chapel there. He arrived in the metropolis with this object in view in January, 1774, and had drawn up a Reform Liturgy, very much on the plan of Dr. Samuel Clarke's, but with considerable alterations, by the middle of April of that year.

On Sunday, April 17, the Unitarian chapel, in Essex-street, in the Strand,† was opened, "and," says Mr. Lindsey's biographer, "divine service was performed before an audience as numerous as could in reason be expected, and as respectable for rank and character as were ever collected together upon a similar occasion." In a worldly point of view the experiment was a decided success, and Mr. Lindsey remained pastor of the Essex-street congregation until the weight of years admonished him to resign the charge.

Two sentences, however, from the Biography to which I am indebted for the above-recited personal facts, throw light upon the state of the public mind and the character of the Government in 1774. They are as follows:—

"1. The tide of prejudice at that time set so strongly against the Unitarian doctrine that there was some reason to apprehend, at least many of Mr. Lindsey's friends did apprehend, that some popular dis-

* In 1863 Mr. Buxton's proposition for partial relief was defeated by the previous question, the member for Oxford University (Mr. Gladstone) not opposing it on principle.

† These premises were refitted and reconstructed in 1778, in the shape which they still retain. Mr. Lindsey's Reformed Liturgy is used there every Sunday.

turbance might take place at the opening of a chapel professedly upon Unitarian principles, and that some personal insult might be offered to the minister or some interruption attempted in the service.

"2. And though, upon the opening of the chapel in Essex-street, an emissary of Government was known for some time to attend the public service regularly, in order to communicate information to persons in power, yet, when it was discovered that nothing was either taught or done contrary to the allegiance due to the State, and likewise that but few of the dissatisfied clergy were disposed to follow Mr. Lindsey's example, and that the obnoxious principles were not likely to gain over many proselytes, Ministers of State wisely ceased to trouble themselves about Essex Chapel, and suffered the new sect quietly to immerse and find its level in the vast mass of religious dissentients."

Such were the circumstances which brought about the first movement for relief among the clergy of the Church of England, and such the immediate result of the failure of that movement. The circumstances that have given birth to the new Association for the same object are well known. May we expect from the agitation any ecclesiastical phenomenon corresponding to that which, in the last century, gave a consistency and a standing to English Unitarianism which it had not previously possessed, and to which it may be said to owe its origin as a recognised religious denomination?

W. G.

ESSAYS AND REVIEWS."

THE late judgment of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council has been unanimously condemned at a meeting of the Dean and Chapter of Tamworth Rural Deanery, held on the 18th inst. "We view," says the meeting, "with the greatest anxiety and alarm the late judgment of the Privy Council, wherein it is declared that 'the proposition or assertion that every part of the Scriptures was written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, is not to be found either in the articles or in the formularies of the Church,' and that 'they (the Privy Council) do not find in the formularies to which the article (of charge) refers, any such distinct declaration of our Church, upon the subject (of the eternity of final punishment), as to require them to condemn as penal the expression of hope by a clergyman, that even the ultimate pardon of the wicked, who are condemned at the day of judgment, may be consistent with the will of Almighty God."

Such an interpretation of the Articles the meeting regards as contrary to the truths of religion, and dangerous to the unity and stability of the Church; and urges the presentation of petitions, embodying these sentiments, to the Archbishop of Canterbury and to the Lord Bishop of the diocese, praying "That all possible efforts may be made, that the true doctrine of the Church, both in respect to the Divine inspiration of all Holy Scripture, and the eternity of rewards and punishments may be vindicated and confirmed; and, to this end, humbly suggesting also that the voice of the Church be taken with a view to such authoritative explanations or additions to our Articles of religion (as is provided for in the royal declaration prefixed to such Articles), that the truths, taught by our Church, may be neither evaded nor denied by those ministering within her pale."

The co-operation of other bodies of the clergy is invited, with a view to "some public movement and demonstration expressive of the sentiments of the Dean and Chapter;" and the Rev. H. J. Pye, of Clifton Rectory, Tamworth, secretary of the committee, undertakes to receive communications towards this end.

NATIONAL SAINTS.—St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, was a Scotchman, named Succath. Being of noble birth he was surnamed Patricius, which became afterwards Patrick. St. David, the patron saint of Wales, was the son of a Cymric prince and uncle of King Arthur. St. Gall, the apostle of the Swiss, was Colmiban, an Irish priest. St. Augustine, the apostle of the Saxons, was an Italian. Boniface, the apostle of the Germans, was a Devonshire man, named Winifred. Constantine the Great, who first made Christianity a state religion, was born in Britain. Pelagius, one of the great heresiarchs of the ancient Christian Church, and who as an eye-witness wrote an account of the sack at Rome, was one Morgan, a Briton. St. Dunstan was a Glastonbury man. St. Swithin, who escorted Alfred the Great when a boy to Rome, was a Winchester monk. St. Boethius lived and died a pagan. He was canonized by the Romish Church on account of the inestimable value of his great work on "The Consolations of Philosophy to Religion and Morality."—*Daily News*.

THE Rev. W. J. E. Bennett, vicar of Frome Selwood, has issued a letter to his parishioners, in connection with the recently consecrated chapel in his parish, in which he writes—"All the seats are free, and whosoever enters first may take his place as he pleases, provided only that a few seats will be retained for the use of the children in the schools, and provided also that the men, according to the ancient custom, shall sit together on the south side and the women on the north. The offertory at the celebration of the holy communion, together with collection of alms (which will be at every service of the Lord's-day), will be used, according to the ancient practice of the Church, in three divisions. One-third will be set apart for the sick and needy of the district; one-third towards the maintenance of the priest; and one-third for the expenses of divine service."

THE establishment of a "monastery" in Norwich by the "English Order of St. Benedict" has caused considerable excitement in that city. So great has been the clamour occasioned that the brethren have had to call in the aid of the police, and they have now resolved to admit no one to their chapel except on payment of a small

admission fee. Season tickets, at 8s. per quarter, have also been introduced. It is announced that the chapel will be solemnly opened on Thursday, and that some "novices will make their profession of the monastic vows" on the occasion. Brother Ignatius is the master-spirit in all these proceedings.—*Express*.

THREE Sundays since an example of the intercommunion between the Eastern and Western Churches was afforded to the congregation of St. Bartholomew's, Moor-lane. An Archimandrite of the Greek Church, a friend of the Rev. W. Denton, the incumbent, attended the service and took his place at one of the sedilia. He was dressed in a cassock, with a cincture, over which he wore a robe trimmed with fur; he wore the peculiar cap of the Greek Church. He followed the service in a Greek translation of our Liturgy.—*Guardian*.

THE Rev. Dr. Norman M'Leod, and his brother, the Rev. Donald M'Leod, of Linlithgow, accompanied by Mr. Strahan, the publisher of *Good Words*, were among the passengers who left Southampton on Friday week, in the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamship *Ellora*, for Alexandria. We understand that they are to make a tour of the Holy Land, which will probably occupy two or three months.—*Edinburgh Witness*.

THE Rev. W. Clements, for thirty-two years pastor of the Baptist Chapel, Halstead, has seceded to the Church of England. Mr. Clements is about to enter the ministry of the Establishment, and will officiate in the diocese of London. He has already a son in holy orders.

THE Bishop-designate of Ely has nominated the Rev. Dr. Howson, Principal of the Liverpool Collegiate Institution, his examining chaplain. The Bishop-designate preached his farewell sermon to a crowded congregation, in Exeter cathedral, on Sunday week.

THE Bishop of Oxford has recently consecrated a moveable church and school, of wood, at Handy Cross, Marlow, the principal expense of which has been borne by the Rev. R. Milner, the incumbent.

We (*Guardian*) learn from abroad that a rupture has occurred in the sect of the Irvingites; the "Church" at Hamburg having called "Apostles" of their own, and broken off all connection with the Irvingite "Apostles" in England.

SCIENCE.

ATMOSPHERIC PROPULSION AND STEAM POWER.—When the question of railway travelling was first introduced, it was predicted that the power of atmospheric pressure would prove more economical and expeditious than locomotive engines. Various trials were made, and carriages propelled through a large iron tunnel, by means of air-pumps for the removal of the air in front of the piston to which these carriages were attached; and to show the little necessity there was for this piston being air-tight, an interval of an inch was allowed between it and the sides of the tunnel. So far the principle was established; but the exclusion of daylight, and other objections, were fatal to the attempt. Brunel and others, to remove these objections, caused the carriages to move in the open air, attached to pistons in close iron cylinders by a connecting-rod, which opened a valve at the top of this cylinder as the carriages passed, after which it closed again. The power thus acquired on pistons of an area of from 80 to 100 square inches, by air-pumps causing a pressure of from eight to ten pounds on the square inch, was found so expensive and so inadequate to compete with locomotives that this attempt was also abandoned for passengers; but the recent success of the Pneumatic Despatch Company in the conveyance of letters and parcels proves that the propulsive power of the atmosphere has not been lost sight of. The locomotive has a speed of fifty to sixty miles an hour notwithstanding the resistance of the atmosphere in an adverse wind may exceed sixteen pounds to the inch; but as a pressure of less than one pound to the inch on a piston moving with a current of air will give a velocity five or six times greater than that now acquired by locomotives, there is ample space for the verification of the prediction that the atmospheric would ultimately surpass the locomotive. If this question is capable of solution, no better opportunity can present itself than the present, when so much alarm is manifested. A proposition for overcoming all the evils of having the London streets cut up or undermined by railways, with noisy steam-engines, and the already impure atmosphere still further deteriorated by steam and smoke, by means of an improved atmospheric system without air-pumps or steam-engines, will be brought before the public, whereby subterraneous tunnelling or crossing railways on a level will also be avoided by iron girder viaducts, similar to that which crosses the Thames at Hungerford. There would be no interruption to street traffic by trains on one of these viaducts, or difficulties in crossing from one side of a street to the other, such as would be unavoidable in railways on a ground level.

DISCOVERY OF OLD GUNS.—Now that rifled cannon is a subject of such national importance and very general discussion, the history of projectiles and ordnance possesses considerable interest. A curious fact connected with the progress of gun manufacture in this country has recently come to light. A Manx correspondent says that several of the posts on the quay at Peel, used for the mooring of the vessels in the harbour, were old iron guns, which had at one time formed a portion of the guns formerly mounted on Peel Castle. It appears that, in consequence of reports recently made by some visitors to Peel, inquiries were set on foot, at the instance of the authorities at the War-office, relative to these guns, the result of which was that they were inspected by competent persons, and reported as being the earliest specimens of rifled cannon known to exist. A correspondence between the War-office, the Secretary of State, and his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor ensued, which resulted in the determination of her Majesty's Government to have the guns taken up from their position on Peel quay, and to be forwarded to and placed in the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich, as among the most rare and early specimens of

rifled ordnance known. The schooner *Cestrian*, of Chester, arrived on Tuesday last, direct from London, from which port she sailed on the 12th ult., having on board eight guns (unserviceable, but otherwise in good order), to be placed as mooring-posts on the quay, instead of the eight old rifled ones, which were on the following day taken up, in order to be forwarded to that great national repository of curiosities connected with naval military ordnance at Woolwich. We understand that the Secretary of State has consented that two of them shall be retained in the Isle of Man.

FISH HATCHING.—On Saturday last a number of gentlemen interested in piscicultural operations assembled at the Firs, Twickenham-common, the residence of Francis Francis, Esq., to inspect the arrangements for storing and hatching the ova of fish principally of the salmon family. The exertions of the Fisheries Preservation Association, of which Mr. Francis is one of the most active members, have resulted in an Act of Parliament to prevent the murderous destruction of fish, and the arrangements made by the Acclimatization Society at Twickenham form a fitting complement to the good already effected by the association. The apparatus is comparatively simple, consisting of a large cistern, which forms the water-shed of several tiny rivulets, flowing gently through a number of stoneware troughs, in which the eggs are placed during the process of maturation and hatching. As soon as the eggs are hatched, the fish pass, and are transferred to another series of troughs, containing small stones and pieces of slate. They are next removed to the rivers which are to form their future home. The operation of placing the eggs was begun on Christmas-eve, since which over 130,000 have been tenderly cared for; over 40,000 eggs and fry have been already distributed, and fresh supplies are being daily received from the French Acclimatization Society, which has always acted in the most generous manner. Besides sheds and troughs for the hatching operations, the society has formed several ponds for the preservation of the fry, and a canal has been cut in connection with the river Colne, to serve as a dwelling-place for milting and spawning fish. The society's operations have been eminently successful.

METRIC TABLES.—For the reduction into British standard measures and weights of the metric measures and weights now in use on the Continent, by Mr. C. H. Dowling, C.E., are about to be published by Messrs. Lockwood. These tables were originally in part calculated by the author for his professional use as an engineer; but so great has been the benefit derived from them that he has extended them, so as to form a complete collection suitable to all branches of foreign commerce. This series will doubtless find a place in the counting-houses of every merchant.

THE ANCIENT MARKET CROSS OF WYMONDHAM.—The ancient market cross of Wymondham, Norfolk—an octagonal building of the sixteenth century, and of a class of which there are few (if any) examples remaining—is being restored. The interior, which is twenty-six feet across, is to be converted into a reading-room for the town.

CHEMISTRY.—The February part of Mr. Watts's "Dictionary of Chemistry" contains "From Galls to Glucose." The article on gases is an important one, and well deals with the practical questions of burners and furnaces, with the absorption of gases by liquids, their collection and preservation, their combination by volume, their diffusion, and their relations to pressure and temperature.

THE SICILIAN JOURNALS.—The Sicilian journals speak of a great discovery of "mimieri di carbone," in the province of Girgenti, in the territory of Raffaddi, on the property of the Marchese Mont Aperta. It is said to be in great abundance, and to produce a light superior to that of coal-gas.

FINE ARTS.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.—BUNKUM MULLER.

So identified had Mr. Sothern been with Lord Dundreary, that not one in a thousand who repeated his lordship's sayings and his name ever thought of mentioning that of the actor. There was paid to Mr. Sothern the compliment that the character was natural to him, and some went so far as to trace its history to an early attempt on his part to cure stammering. His appearance in a new piece was therefore looked for with more than usual interest.

There could be no greater contrast to Lord Dundreary than is Bunkum Muller. Lord Dundreary is a dandy; Muller is the most slovenly of slovens. His lordship is surrounded by everything that is orderly and refined; Mr. Muller's residence is a perfect picture of neglect and dirt. His lordship dyes to a brilliant black; Mr. Muller delights in a caroty and uncombed red. But to the plot. Bunkum Muller is an unappreciated dramatic author, who, having had seven five-act dramas refused by the sour manager, is about sending in an eighth. He is heir to a fortune of £5,000, with only the drawback of its being in Chancery, and subject to the adverse claim of a person whose title is considered a better one than his. In a fit of spite at being refused by his Julia, he has married a Mrs. Tickler, widow of Tickler, late supercargo, drowned at sea; and to annoy his former lady love by an exhibition of his happiness, he has taken up his abode on the opposite side of the way to hers. Mrs. Tickler turns out a shrew, and renders Bunkum the most miserable of mortals. A dispute with the brother of Julia, Muller partly regarded as the source of his woes. Some racing bets with the young gentleman had had an unpleasant termination. The brother offered to back Jupiter. Muller immediately laid 100 to 1 upon Thunderer against him. Jupiter came in first, Thunderer last but one. Muller's impression that Jupiter and Thunderer meant the same thing, and he contending that he had really backed the winner, separates the friends, and the estrangement is further widened by the suspicion the brother-cousin entertains that he has lost a government appointment

through Muller's treachery. Julia writes him that she has taken another and bids good-bye for ever. This completes his misery. Matters are, however, at last set right by the reappearance of Tickler, who has not been drowned, and who hearing that his wife has become entitled to some property, claims and carries off the lady, to the great relief of Muller. Good news pour in apace. A letter comes from Julia, couched in terms so affectionate as to suggest a more careful reading of the former letter, by which it appears she took, not another lover, but another dog. The good-bye "for ever" read "Turn over," which introduced an acceptance of Muller's hand. The brother gets the appointment and remunerates Muller. The Chancery suit is decided in his favour, and his last drama is accepted by Mr. J. B. Buckstone. Mr. Sothern is the only actor before the curtain, and although the character is, of course, immeasurably below "Lord Dundreary," the acting met with frequent bursts of applause from the house.

The sketch itself is very well written, and although it descends at times to puns execrable enough, it abounds in humour and neatly-pointed witticisms, which appeared to be fully appreciated by the audience.

The author in reply to repeated calls appeared before the curtain and was warmly received.

MUSIC.

THERE has been little in the way of performance during the past week to call for special notice, this being the turning-point between the close of the winter and commencement of the spring season, signs of which are now apparent on all sides. The performances of "Faust" in English at Her Majesty's Theatre have been eminently successful, and will terminate during the ensuing week. Some changes have been made in the cast, Mr. Santley having appeared as Mephistopheles, which he acted carefully, and sang, of course, admirably. Mr. Santley was replaced in the part of Valentine by Mr. Lyall, while Mr. Swift has succeeded Mr. Sims Reeves as Faust. The theatre is announced to open for the regular Italian season early in April—various new engagements and novelties in performance being promised.

The Royal English Opera is within three weeks of the close of the season, and the termination of Miss Louisa Pyne and Mr. Harrison's management at Covent Garden Theatre. Farewell benefits are announced by both on the cessation of their period of occupation of the house; which will revert, about the end of March, to its original and legitimate purpose of grand Italian opera, under its rightful sovereign, Mr. Gye. As we have before stated, there is a rumour of this gentleman having secured Gounod's forthcoming opera "Mireille," a work which will be expected with the utmost interest after the great English success of "Faust."

The first concert of the Philharmonic Society, on Monday next, is announced to be in honour of Rossini, whose seventy-second birthday occurs on that date. The programme already issued, however, interesting as it is otherwise, can scarcely be considered as representative of the composer on the strength of the overtures to "Semiramide" and "Siege of Corinth." In other respects, however, the selection is of great interest, comprising, as it does, the symphony composed by Cherubini expressly for the society. Possibly the vocal music may include some further reference to the specialty of the occasion. While on this subject it may be interesting to state that Rossini, who was understood to have long since renounced all intention of further efforts of any importance, is said, nevertheless, to have completed, during the past summer, a grand mass for solo voices, chorus, and orchestra, the performance of which is expected to take place at Paris during the first fortnight of March. If this be indeed a composition, and not a compilation, and should it be at all worthy to compare with its composer's "Stabat Mater," we may expect an important addition to musical art.

A trial performance of new orchestral compositions was given by the Musical Society of London on Wednesday evening, when a symphony by M. Adolph Gollmick, overtures by Miss A. M. Smith, and Messrs. E. Aguilar, Harold Thomas, and C. A. Barry; and a flute concerto by Mr. G. A. Macfarren were performed; the latter work bringing forward an excellent flautist, Mr. J. Radcliffe, whose tone and execution were alike admirable. These trial performances form a very praiseworthy feature in the constitution of the Musical Society, and it is only to be regretted that they have hitherto produced so little result. They bring to light an abundant supply of manufacture, but very little evidence of original or mature thought. A second trial performance is announced for May 18.

Another Mendelssohn scholarship is announced as open to competition—the advantages offered to the successful candidate being the "gratuitous education of students possessing remarkable musical talent, especially for composition."

NEW VOCAL MUSIC.

AMONG recent publications by Messrs. Lamborn Cock, Hutchings, & Co., are several pieces of more than the average merit and interest possessed by the generality of fugitive productions. Mr. Henry Stuart, one of our most graceful song-writers, contributes two very charming compositions which should find their way wherever refined chamber music is in request. His duettino, "The Shepherd's bell," is exquisitely graceful and pastoral in style, and the

accompaniment, although simple, is written with that purity and elegance that distinguish the thoroughly cultivated from the imperfectly trained musician. The canzone, "Bird of the morning," by the same composer, is a kind of round for three voices, the theme of which, a very elegant and expressive phrase, is taken up by each voice in succession and interwoven with a pure vocal harmony, producing an exquisite effect in the combination of the voices. The pianoforte accompaniment, which is a little more elaborate than in the preceding piece, is admirably adapted to relieve and contrast with the sustained effect of the vocal passages. These two pieces by Mr. Smart are among the best of recent contributions to chamber music of their kind. Mr. John Barnett comes before us with a romance "After all," a kind of declamatory song, setting forth the desolation of a home by the loss of its youngest member in the battle-field. The words (probably American, or at least suggested by the struggle of the North and South) are based on an emotional subject which Mr. Barnett has well embodied in his simple but expressive setting. "Seeking evermore for thee" ("Treue"), by Franz Keiser, is an agreeable imitation of the German "lied," somewhat after the manner of Kücken, combining a mixture of German sentiment with Italian suavity. "May," by Jules Benedict, forms No. 87 of a collection of chamber trios, issued by the publishers above named. This piece, like those of Mr. Smart, may be recommended to all who practise this kind of concerted music. The vocal passages are flowing and melodious, although occasionally somewhat chromatic; but the accompaniment being chiefly an embodiment of the vocal score, there is little to embarrass the most timid singers. "Wake the lay," by James Coward, is another chamber trio of the set which includes the preceding. It is in the robust English style. The occasional triplets, however, rather interfere with this character, by conveying a somewhat flippant, not to say vulgar impression. "The Festive hall is rung with glee" is rather a lame line, but composers are seldom very critical in selecting their text. "A Wife's song," for four voices, by J. Barnby, is a simple flowing melody, of a rather hymn-like character, well harmonized for the ordinary vocal quartett, and within the powers of most amateurs. "Ne'er to meet again," No. 3 of a set of six songs by Mr. Walter Macfarren, is a capital imitation of the old English ballad style, with a simple but musician-like accompaniment. No. 4 of the same series, "Welcome, Spring," is an agreeable melody, with a well-varied accompaniment passing from simple chords to triplets and arpeggios of semiquavers. Both songs are agreeable specimens of musicianly taste and acquirements. No. 1 of six songs by Mr. H. C. Bannister, "Rose and Violet" (words by Hartley Coleridge), is an expressive melody within the reach of the most moderate vocal powers, and enhanced by an accompaniment which, simple as it is, shows the practised musician. There is considerable elegance and refinement in this little song. "The sweet wee Bird," by Ignace Gibsone, is a little in the *ad captandum* style, with nothing very original or attractive in the melody, and no compensating merit in the accompaniment, which is commonplace and not entirely free from grammatical errors. In the commencing bar of the last staff of page 3, the C sharp in the bass of the accompaniment against the D in the voice part is as hideous in effect as it is contrary to all theory and practice. Again at page 4, the fifth staff from the top, is a seventh rising instead of falling, an invasion of a rule which may sometimes be broken without much offence to the ear, but in this instance has nothing to disguise or excuse it. "The Dawn of the Star," by T. W. Walstein, is a light and pretty little duet, well suited for soprano and mezzo-soprano voices and lying within moderate compass for either. "Good Morrow, sweet lass" by the same composer, is a song of an arch and playful character, which may prove agreeable as a contrast to pieces of a more serious and earnest quality. Mr. F. Romer's setting of "Sandalphon" (words by Longfellow) is a somewhat anomalous application of the commonplace ballad style to a text which requires some dignity in its musical expression. The poet cannot be congratulated, in this instance, on the purpose to which his words have been applied.

ON Saturday, at noon, the mortal remains of Mr. W. Dyce, R.A., were interred in the churchyard of St. Leonard's, Streatham, with a solemn service, amid a hearty feeling of sympathy on the part of his brother artists and the parishioners of Streatham. The boys of the Chapel Royal, accompanied by the Rev. T. Helmore, priest in ordinary to the Queen, were present in surplices, and performed the beautiful service of the Church with full choral solemnity. The Rev. T. Helmore, and the Rev. J. R. Nicholl, rector of Streatham, received the body, the choir singing "I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord," &c. Both psalms were chanted in the church, and the lesson was read by the Rev. J. R. Nicholl. At the grave, in spite of the falling snow, the remainder of the service was given most impressively by the choir and Mr. Helmore. Among those present, besides the widow, with the two youthful sons and the brother-in-law (Mr. Brand) of the great artist, were Mr. Maclise, R.A., Mr. E. M. Cope, R.A., Mr. J. P. Knight, R.A., Mr. J. R. Herbert, R.A., the Rev. Cyril Page, Mr. B. Ferrey (the well-known architect), &c. Most of the shops in the neighbourhood were closed during the morning. On Sunday morning the Rev. Cyril William Page, student of Christ Church, Oxford, and perpetual curate of Christ Church, Broadway, Westminster, preached an eloquent sermon in St. Leonard's parish church, Streatham. It may be added that Mr. Dyce had finally determined to give up his profession in consequence of ill-health, and at the time of his death was in treaty for an estate in Kent—Orpington Priory, St. Mary Cray.

A LIBRARY OF THE FINE ARTS has been opened to the public in the Ecole des Beaux Arts, at Paris. Hitherto, this library was exclusively for the use of the Professors at the School of Arts; it is now open on several days during the week to students generally. There are about 6,000 volumes on the art-sciences and archaeology.

ST. MICHAEL'S.—Ten cartoons have been ordered for this new church, of Moriz von Schwind, the executor of the paintings in Glasgow Cathedral.

CARL FRIEDRICH LESSING is painting Luther's disputation with Eck in the Castle of Pleissenburg, near Leipsic, and Professor Hübner, of Dresden, has an order for the same subject from the Saxon Government.

THE third number of the sessional papers of the Institute of British Architects for 1863-4, is now issued. It contains the discussion on a paper by Mr. Penrose, "In favour of the Decimal but against the Metrical System of Measurement," and a sectional plan of the hydraulic lifts now so extensively introduced into hotels and other large buildings.

MR. HENRY SQUIRE, of King William-street, City, has had the honour of submitting to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales his new "extra rapid" lens for carte de visite portraits, and numerous photographs.

ON Tuesday se'nnight the Schieland Palace—the Museum and Picture Gallery of Rotterdam—was burnt. The greater portion of the collection, which was said to be the finest in the country, perished in the flames.

THE Queen has lately superintended the placing of a monument in the chancel of Whippingham Church to the memory of the Prince Consort.

A MONUMENT to the late Archbishop Musgrave has been erected in York Minster. It is the work of Mr. Noble, sculptor, and consists of a base of carved Caen stone, surmounted with a recumbent figure of the Archbishop in Carrara marble.

A MONUMENT is to be erected by the Charing Cross Railway Company, as nearly as possible the same size and feature as the original Eleanor Cross, which stood in the village of Charing. The site will be in front of the terminus, near to the spot on which the ancient cross stood: the height nearly seventy feet.

A PRESENTATION was made on Wednesday evening to Mr. Benjamin Webster, lessee of the Adelphi and St. James's Theatres, and Master of the Dramatic College. The testimonial was a beautifully illuminated scroll, on which Mr. Webster's services to the drama were recorded. Mr. Robert Bell made the presentation, and in acknowledging it Mr. Webster delivered a happy speech.

ON Monday last Mr. Alfred Wigan made a successful appearance at Edinburgh, in the character of Shylock, in the "Merchant of Venice." Prince Alfred, Dr. Lyon Playfair, and Major Cowell, occupied the Royal box. Veteran theatre-goers declared they had never seen a representation of the character more natural and self-consistent in the minutest detail, and so completely free from rant.

MR. G. F. WATTS, the fresco painter, is about to marry Miss Ellen Terry, sister of the actress.

THE promised comedy of M. Alexandre Dumas, jun., at the Gymnase, "L'Ami des Femmes," is to be brought forward, it is said, about the 20th proximo.

MONEY AND COMMERCE.

LIMITED LIABILITY.

SIGNIFICANT indeed is the fact that limited liability has become "a power among men." It was not supposed that the Act in its general acceptation would have been received with such favour when it first obtained the sanction of the Legislature. Despite the vaunt of its adaptability to the wants of the mercantile and financial community, it was several years before its privileges were made extensively available, and when they were originally brought into operation they did not set forth its advantages in the most encouraging light. For a somewhat long-tryed period limited liability was, so to speak, a dead letter, and notwithstanding provincial experience was rather more favourable to the development of the principle, it was difficult to get a metropolitan proprietary to organise undertakings which should give it a proper and impartial trial.

Disheartening as were the prospects which were associated with the progress of the movement, a few companies with small capitals were started which essayed to give vitality to the Act, and though these could not be looked upon as more than additional crude experiments, they made progress, and finally rendered the public familiar with what was before considered a partially impracticable dogma. Although appeals were made to transatlantic knowledge where the elements of success were so unmistakably apparent, like every new notion based upon theory rather than practice, our countrymen were most slow to take the initiative. Into operation, however, the principle came at last, and although it moved only by steady and sure degrees, the multitude, when it was fully recognised, were only too ready and eager to adopt it. The earlier undertakings that acknowledged its influence, and made its provisions subservient to their purposes, were those of a manufacturing description; and though even after the first great break-down there were occasional difficulties through mismanagement, these were ultimately counterbalanced by the more legitimate results arising in other channels from this kind of copartnery. Nevertheless doubts were still entertained if limited liability would turn

out the great boon that had been predicted by its most ardent admirers, and none were more averse to the new form of arrangement than the Joint Stock Banks and private banking interests. Strange to say, as is very frequently the case, and as if some forewarning of such a change were approaching, the Joint Stock and the private banks have probably more than any other class been affected by the revolution.

The limited liability rage made its first step in Manchester, and there attacked the financial community in its stronghold. Liverpool followed, and with a prescience acknowledged in the locality, it was not long before Birmingham, refusing to be behindhand, did not wait for old banks to recognise the principle, but started one on this very basis, which has since, although a creation of only a few years, proved one of the most thriving in the neighbourhood. But people shook their heads, looked sombre, and were not then prepared to admit that there was the slightest prospect of the Act taking substantial root in London, or even becoming thoroughly acknowledged. A short time, however, only elapsed before the plethora of money, occasioned by the curtailment of trade through the American war, opened a new field for the inventive genius of those who considered themselves specially adapted to promote joint stock enterprise, and they at once sought to make it subservient to their plans.

The dividends of the half-yearly meetings in 1861 and 1862 had been very favourable. Capital was seeking an outlet for employment, and though the supply of banking accommodation was large, it was yet believed that it might be extended. The effects of unlimited responsibility were discussed, but though they were considered the best applicable to banking, both as giving confidence to the public and customers, promoters themselves found that limited liability was more suited to their prospects and arrangements, and at a very opportune moment the vessel with the new name, showing new colours, was launched, but not without some fear and trembling. The period it was soon ascertained was propitious; the current ran smoothly. Two banks were originally started, but the names of the directors in either case being scarcely, in City parlance, strong enough to float such institutions, arrangements were made for effecting an amalgamation. Before this one Bank, under its altered appearance and with a strengthened board, could perfect its preliminaries for commencing business, the prospectuses of two others appeared for public support. One in the shape of share subscriptions was a most decided success, the other speedily secured its capital, but measuring its worth by the market price of shares, it was not so great a favourite either with the speculative or investing public.

When it was perceived that, with a decided plethora in the money-market, a received opinion began to spread amongst the public for speculators, that limited liability would be accepted even in the circles of the banking community, scarcely any bounds were placed to the animation which followed, and limited liability soon became not only patronised by banks, but by every other conceivable kind of financial and industrial undertaking. Not alone was the principle rendered applicable to banking in London and the provinces, but organizations were formed for extending its usefulness to the most distant quarters of the globe. Hindooostan and China, Brazil and Portugal, Austria and Italy, the Cape of Good Hope, Australia, and New Zealand, were very speedily accommodated, and, in several of the more important instances, with every prospect of success. The nearer relations of the United Kingdom were not neglected: France, Belgium, and the Netherlands, being at the same time completely supplied. The effect, as might be supposed, was also to introduce those large and important finance credit companies which have since been raised with capital more extended than those of the banks. These again striking into new paths and new channels, have been accompanied by those exchange establishments which are entering upon domains in the territory of finance before exclusively occupied by the Leviathan capitalists, whose names have been passwords throughout Europe and the world for wealth and resources almost defying competition.

But it is not in this direction solely that limited liability is now putting forth claims for universal support. Everywhere the adoption of the principle is encouraged, and from the highest to the lowest enterprise no other kind of foundation is permitted. Bold would be the individual who dared in these days to start an undertaking on the unlimited system, holding the shareholder, as in the case of many existing institutions, responsible "to his last shilling and his last acre." That which seven or eight years ago was considered an experiment, and an experiment of a very dangerous character, even as applied to the most ordinary adventures, has at length become so popular that it bids fair to override antecedent interests. Limited joint-stock and private companies throw all others into the shade. Indeed, it may be said to be an analogous expansion to that experienced in the period of railway history, when every route, every highway, and every canal, was to become auxiliary to the new interest, and be finally absorbed. Of course, limited liability may, in its extended form, be carried beyond due bounds; it may, like the railway system, be so expanded that the recoil from the shock may be felt detrimentally in every quarter when a collapse takes place. But although this must occur sooner or later, it does not follow that limited liability, as a principle, will not turn out a success, and stamp encouraging traces of its handiwork upon many of the recently established financial and commercial institutions. The very excess of the preponderating influence which has brought forward the late large crop of industrial enterprise, must, at no distant date, be relieved by reaction;

but although this will come, and its effect be exhibited in a variety of localities, the result will not permanently prejudice the vitality of the principle.

Limited liability has at length made itself a name and a position in the land; and though there may still be failures and mischances in individual cases associated with its working, it will not be an easy task to divert it from its recognised channels. Limited liability, it has been jocosely remarked, has become our banker, our credit and financial purveyor, our armourer, our hotel-keeper, our brewer, our baker—not as yet our butcher, though there is no great reason why eventually this may not be the case—our bootmaker, our dairyman, and caterer for our most ordinary wants. With this dominant tendency the power of the Act, now it has been brought so fully into play, must be severely felt, particularly by those who have hitherto endeavoured to stem the tide of its operations, and disinclined as they even now may be to receive its proffered assistance, they will not eventually escape its gradually absorbing powers. Limited liability is, therefore, established as a great principle; it may have its weak points, and defective arrangements will, in all probability, occasionally entail disgrace on its development; but as a principle it will outlive any such drawbacks as these, and finally extend its influence, if possible, even more widely than at present.

COMPANIES LIMITED BY GUARANTEE.

A COMPANY has been started, with a guaranteed capital of £500,000, whose object is to carry on a general money-dealer's business with public companies only, under the principle of "limit by guarantee" authorised by the Companies' Act of 1862. The chief feature of this system is that, by the acceptance of a *fixed limited responsibility*, the same advantage can be secured (as well in respect of profits as with regard to voting at meetings, and exercising all the usual rights of shareholders) as if the amount guaranteed had been *actually paid-up*. Manifestly a company possessing a guaranteed capital will be sure of more public confidence than an ordinary limited company, since, in the event of a winding-up, creditors are certain of the capital guaranteed, which can never leave the hands of the guarantor till such an event happens. It is singular that this provision of the Companies' Act has hitherto attracted so little attention.

THE Bank reduced the rate of discount on Thursday to 6 per cent., but it was so fully expected, through the easiness of money for two or three days previously, that it did not occasion the least surprise. The check upon trade, and the influx of capital from America and elsewhere, will amply account for the alteration.

AFTER the Bank reduced the rate on Thursday there was no great increase in the demand. Out of doors the applications were more numerous, at about 5½ per cent. It is imagined that in a few days the principal discount brokers will again be working at 5½. A very good supply of money exists; and it is said, through the check to trade from the Germano-Danish difficulty, the quotation may yet further recede.

THE Joint Stock Banks now allow 4½ per cent. for deposits. The discount brokers will give 4½ per cent. for money on call, and 5 per cent. for money at notice.

THE effect of the reduction was so completely anticipated that public stocks and shares showed no response to the change. If anything, Consols for the March Account were slightly weaker, viz.:—91½ to 4. On the Stock Exchange money for short loans was required, and it fetched on Thursday night as much as 6 per cent.

A good deal of animation has been apparent in foreign stocks, but the highest prices are not now so well maintained. Mexican has receded to 43½ to 4; Spanish passive, 34½ to 4; Greek, 22½ to 4; Turkish Consolidés, 50½ to 4; Venezuela, 59 to 60.

RAILWAY shares have been fairly steady, but there has been little activity; Midland, 130 to 130½; Great Western, 64½ to 4; London and North-Western, 110½ to 4; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 111½ to 4; South-Eastern, 94½ to 95½.

THE shares of the Credit and Finance Companies are good, though the engagements have not been extensive. It is wonderful they have been so well maintained, especially with the introduction of rival undertakings. The crop of new companies is steadily augmenting.

THE gold sent into the Bank during the week has reached nearly £230,000. The amount withdrawn was only £82,000.

THE new companies brought before the public in 1863 were in number 264. Of these, 27 were devoted to banking; 15 were either financial societies or discount houses; 65 were devoted to trade or manufacture; 17 were new railway companies; 14 for the purpose of insurance; 6 devoted to the shipping interest; 49 to mining; 46 were hotel companies; 6 gas; and 18 miscellaneous. The total capital offered amounted to £78,135,000, of which £25,000,000 was taken by banking; £13,150,000 by finance and discount; £10,400,000 by manufacture and trading; and £9,196,000. We extract these figures from the *Economist* of the 20th, which, together with its supplement, forms a volume of 96 pages, filled with the most important commercial information, and a masterly "Commercial History and Review of 1863."

A PHILADELPHIA paper says that the receipts of petroleum during this year will reach nearly 500,000 barrels.

TOAD oil is now becoming marketable, and is said to be an excellent lubricator.—*New York Sun*.

REVIEWS OF BOOKS.

THE EMPIRE IN INDIA.*

WHEN Lord Dalhousie came home in 1856, after administering for eight years the Supreme Government at Calcutta, he was covered with honours and loaded with pecuniary rewards for the supposed success of a policy which had tended to enlarge, if not to consolidate, the possessions of the East India Company. But he languished, for the short remainder of his life, under a severe and depressing malady which prevented him from ever discussing in public the actual results of that policy, as they appeared in the tremendous convulsion of 1857. This at least is the view taken by Major Evans Bell, who ascribes the late conspiracy against British rule in India chiefly to the hatred and distrust that were excited by our treatment of the families of several of the native princes when their dominions were annexed and their property confiscated by the Government of Lord Dalhousie. If Major Bell is right, it was the illegality and scandalous immorality of our proceedings in the affairs of Sattara, Nagpore, Jhansi, and Oude, which provoked the hostility of the minor chieftains and military classes throughout a large part of Central India, as well as in the North-West Provinces. In the case of Oude, we suppose there can be no doubt that the Sepoys recruited from that country were instigated to their revolt by the partisans of the dethroned king, or by the feudal aristocracy of Oude, who thus sought to avenge themselves for the annexation effected in the previous year. Major Bell does not, however, go into the history of that affair. His aim is rather to expose what he deems to be the injustice and rapacity of our dealings with the succession to those native principalities which have within the last twelve years been appropriated by the British Government, as paramount sovereign of India, upon the demise of their late possessors. In most of these instances, the claim of the East India Company, or of her Majesty, to "resume" the dominions in question, was made out by a peremptory disallowance of the Hindoo law and custom regarding the adoption of collateral heirs where there is no male descendant in the direct line. Major Bell argues, first, that, as this supposed imperial prerogative of disapproving and forbidding such adoptions in the families of Hindoo dependent princes never belonged either to the Mogul dynasty of Delhi or to the head of the Mahratta Confederation, it cannot have passed to the English Government; and, secondly, he proves that the English Government had, on many former occasions, expressly recognised the independent sovereignty of these very princes whose dominions it has now annexed, to the prejudice of their legal heirs. He protests, then, against the iniquity of these acts, by which, he says, we have lost the confidence and attachment of all the higher classes in India.

There are two cases in particular—that of the Rajah of Nagpore and that of the Nawab of the Carnatic—in which he advises a plenary restitution of what has been wrongfully taken away. He does not, of course, think it would be possible or expedient for us to restore the kingdom of Oude, which we now hold by conquest; or the principality of Jhansi, which we have likewise purchased with our blood; or even that of Sattara, where the despoiled family, after brooding for nine years over their wrongs, also joined in 1857 the conspiracy against us. But with regard to the Bhoonsla family of Nagpore, and the Wallajah, represented by Prince Azeem Jah, who claims the title and stipulated revenue of Nawab of the Carnatic, we are under particular obligations to them for their friendly behaviour in 1857. To urge the redress of their grievances is, therefore, Major Bell's immediate and practical object in this treatise upon the recent policy of our Indian Empire. The case of Sattara and that of Jhansi, which resemble the Nagpore case in some of their features, belong now to the history of the past. It may not, however, be too late to undo whatever wrong has been done in the case of Janojee Bhoonsla, Rajah of Nagpore, and in that of Azeem Jah, Nawab of the Carnatic, whose cause is ably pleaded in this volume.

It appears that when Rughojee Bhoonsla III., Rajah of Nagpore, died in December, 1853, he left no direct heir. His grandmother, the Banka Baee, a clever spirited old lady, who had been regent for some time during his minority, and had during fifty years exercised great influence both in domestic and public affairs, proposed to the widows of the deceased that they should adopt his nearest male relative, a grand-nephew, to be regarded as the son of the deceased, in conformity with Hindoo law. It is the privilege and duty of Hindoo widows, as explained by the best authorities on the subject, to adopt, from among the kinsmen of a husband who has died childless, one who is to become his son and heir, to enter into full possession of his estate, to perform his funeral ceremonies, and to provide for the religious observances required on his behalf. So far from this practice having been in the cases now disputed a mere expedient which was invented by an extinct family to prolong or renovate itself, it is an ancient and venerable custom, which lies at the very foundation of Hindoo society. It is not used to remedy the lack of heirs, but to supply the want of a son. There are many possible heirs; and one of them, a nephew or a cousin or an uncle, is appointed to be the son and heir. A man who has no children is bound to make this appointment; and if he has neglected to do so, his widow is bound to do it

after his death. The Rajah of Sattara, who died in April, 1848, had actually, when on his death-bed, adopted a youth, whose succession the Bombay Government, supported by the Governor-General and the Court of Directors, determined to set aside. The Rajah of Jhansi, in November, 1853, two days before he died, in a similar manner adopted a son, whom Lord Dalhousie chose to deprive of the inheritance. The Rajah of Nagpore, as we have seen, died without having made such provision; but it was done, with perfect regularity, by his senior widow, Anpoorna Baee, acting under the advice of the Banka Baee, grandmother of the late Rajah. The boy whom they adopted was the son of Myra Baee, the late Rajah's niece, and undoubtedly his nearest surviving kinsman. Being formally resigned by his mother, Myra Baee, to the widow Anpoorna Baee, who took him on behalf of her deceased husband, he became the legal son and heir of Rughojee Bhoonsla III. It is this youth, now called Janojee Bhoonsla, whom Major Bell regards as the rightful Prince or Rajah of Nagpore.

On the other hand, it has been contended by Lord Dalhousie and his advisers on this occasion, that the late Rajah of Nagpore, Rughojee Bhoonsla, was incapable of transmitting an hereditary title either to a natural or to an adopted son, because he did not himself succeed to the principality by inheritance, but by the favour of Lord Hastings in 1826, since his predecessor, Appa Sahib, had been deposed for conspiring against the British Government. On this point, however, Major Bell offers a convincing reply. He shows that, on the deposition of Appa Sahib in 1817, the late Rughojee was the next heir; and the dominions having been administered, during his minority, by Sir Richard Jenkins, with the Banka Baee as Regent, in the name of Rughojee, it was not by a gift or grant from the Governor-General, but as an hereditary sovereign, that Rughojee succeeded in 1826. Not only in the correspondence of the British political residents at Nagpore, but in a minute of the Governor-General's so late as 1844, there is a distinct reference to "the right of adoption which may be considered to attach to any surviving member of the Rajah's family." We cannot, therefore, but agree with Major Bell, that the general right of adoption may not honestly be denied in this case. But the Company's Government, having already, under a similar pretext, got hold of Sattara and Jhansi, was greedy for the annexation of Nagpore; and Lord Dalhousie had no scruple in gratifying this territorial lust of aggrandisement by unrighteous means.

The Bhoonsla family, including the Banka Baee and four or five widows of the late Rajah, with some hundreds of servants and dependents, are enjoying life pensions to rather a large amount; but these are paid, it appears, out of a fund of no less than twenty-seven lakhs of rupees, or £270,000, which was the private personal property of the late Rajah, and which the British Government has confiscated, seizing even upon the furniture of his palace, the silver plate, the clothes and jewels, which he left behind him, and searching the apartments of the widows for any valuables that might be concealed there. As for the adopted heir, Janojee Bhoonsla, he was not to have any pension; but Lord Canning, in 1860, allowed him to take possession of the late Rajah's real estates.

Major Bell contends that Janojee ought at once to be re-established in the sovereignty of Nagpore, which has been incorporated with the central provinces of the Nerbudda region, under the direct administration of the English Government. We do not think it would be feasible to hand over the actual government of Nagpore to the native prince; but it may, upon a fair consideration of his case, be found both right and expedient to invest him with the titular sovereignty, and to allow him a certain share of the revenues of the province, with which he and his partisans might be content.

This leads us, however, to the other case fully discussed by Major Bell; namely, the alleged breach of our engagement with the Nawab of the Carnatic, who, by a treaty made with Lord Wellesley in 1801, divested himself of the ruling power, and conveyed to the East India Company the perpetual administration of his dominions, reserving to himself the nominal sovereignty and a fifth part of the revenue. Major Bell complains that the legal heir of the Carnatic, the Prince Azeem Jah, who should have succeeded on the death of Mahomed Ghous Khan in October, 1855, has been unjustly kept out of his rights. He is a younger son of Azeem-ood-Dowlah, the very Nawab who made that treaty with Lord Wellesley's Government in 1801. There were two sons, one named Azum and the other Azeem. The elder son of Azeem-ood-Dowlah was named Azum Jah, and succeeded him, without dispute, on his death in 1819. He died in 1825. The late Nawab, Mahomed Ghous Khan, was the son of Azum. He was an infant when his father died, but he succeeded under the regency of his uncle Azeem, and died without male issue, as we have remarked, in 1855. Nothing can be clearer than that his uncle Azeem Jah, both by Mahomedan and English law, is now the rightful heir.

But Lord Dalhousie and Lord Harris, the Governor of Madras, in accordance with the unscrupulous policy of the Court of Directors, resolved in 1855 that the *musnud* or hereditary sovereignty of the Carnatic should be "placed in abeyance," and that Azeem Jah, the legitimate representative of the Wallajah family, should be deprived of his inheritance. The only attempt to justify this act of spoliation and breach of trust is by alleging that the treaty of 1801 was "merely a personal one" with the former Nawab, Azeem-ood-Dowlah, and that it was never meant to secure the *musnud* to his descendants. The falsehood of this allegation is proved by the fact that his eldest son and his grandson were allowed to succeed to the *musnud* in 1819 and in 1825. The

* The Empire in India: Letters from Madras and Other Places. By Major Evans Bell, Madras Staff Corps, Author of "The English in India: Letters from Nagpore, written in 1857-8." London: Trübner & Co.

younger son must have had the same right to succeed in 1855. It is true that Azeem-ood-Dowlah, to whom the sovereignty was secured by our treaty of 1801, was not at that time the legitimate heir of the Wallajah dynasty, but of a younger branch of the same house. He was, by Lord Wellesley's assistance, set up in the place of Ali Hoosein, the reputed heir of the elder branch, who would not consent to strip himself of the governing power, and whose father, Omdut-ool-Oomra, was suspected of a hostile intrigue with Tippoo Sahib and the French against us. But the elder branch has long been extinct, so that the true representative of the original Nawabs is now, beyond all question, the Prince Azeem Jah.

The English Government cannot have the slightest pretension to treat the Nawab of the Carnatic as their dependent vassal. The fact is, that the Nawab is our feudal suzerain, and we hold the greater part of the Madras Presidency either by grants from the Nawab, or as trustees for him. It seems, therefore, monstrous that we should arrogate the power of "placing his title in abeyance," merely because the late Nawab, Mahomed Ghous Khan, was a man of debauched and reckless habits, who squandered his revenues in a disreputable manner. The same excuse is made for our treatment of the reigning house at Nagpore, whose late Rajah, Rughoeo Bhoonsla, is said to have had some personal vices, which are enumerated by Lord Dalhousie in the minute upon his decision to oust the lawful heir. But what can these charges have to do with the question of an hereditary right?

Neither the late Rajah of Nagpore nor the late Nawab of the Carnatic was ever guilty of any disloyal or unfriendly conduct towards the British Government. Since their death, in the terrific crisis of 1857, when the existence of our Indian Empire and the lives of our countrymen in India were in the utmost danger, we were indebted to the Dowager of Nagpore, and to Prince Azeem Jah at Madras, for using all their great personal influence to prevent a revolt in those localities, which would else, like Cawnpore and Delhi, have been drenched with English blood. We are therefore bound in gratitude, as well as in justice, to satisfy the rightful claims of the Bhoonsla and the Wallajah families. Unhappily, it is too late for us to remedy the mischief of Lord Dalhousie's grasping policy in other cases, where the dispossessed parties, having joined in the fierce attack upon us in the summer of 1857, were, like the Amazonian Ranees of Jhansi, finally defeated and crushed by our military power.

We have not space, on this occasion, to follow Major Bell through his argument for the restoration of the native sovereign of Mysore, whose territories, since 1831, have been governed by a British Commissioner in his name. It is to be hoped that the wise and righteous policy of Lord Canning will henceforth be strictly observed, to perpetuate, so far as possible, the hereditary dignities of the Princes and Chiefs of India, and, on their failure of natural offspring, to recognize their adoption of heirs, according to the law and custom of their own race. Lord Dalhousie's policy of annexations—effected by the most flagrant outrages upon justice, and by the most impudent violations of public faith—has cost both India and England far more than it has gained. It has brought the Honourable Company's government to a very dishonourable end. It was very near being the utter destruction of our Empire in the East. It will be recorded by future historians with shame and sorrow; though, by a stedfast honesty—the only safe policy—and by a frank and equal fellowship with our Queen's Asiatic subjects, we may, in the next generation, win the whole motley population of that vast Empire to own with gratitude and loyalty a beneficent English rule.

SOUNDINGS FROM THE ATLANTIC.*

It is but recently that Mr. Oliver Wendell Holmes has attained a great and wide reputation in England, though we believe he is now an elderly man, and the fly-leaf of this book contains a long list of poems, essays, and tales that have flowed from his pen. Nevertheless, he is one of that brilliant band of literary men born during the present century in New England, and of whom the most conspicuous members are Longfellow, Emerson, and Hawthorne. Though perhaps scarcely equal to that famous trio, Mr. Holmes is assuredly entitled to be mentioned in connection with them. He is imbued with the same spirit, has much the same habit of mind, and in a certain degree unites many of the characteristics of each. He has something of the poetic grace of Longfellow, something of the subtle mysticism of Emerson, and something of the wild, half humorous, half grim fancy of Hawthorne. Barring a few objectionable oddities, he writes a noble English; yet no skilled judge would mistake him for an English author. Here and there he may remind one of some of our own leading men,—of Dickens, in occasional gleams of humour; or of De Quincey, in affluence and pageantry of language. But the general effect is palpably transatlantic. Our old English solidity and bulk has been rarefied in the finer air of America into something more exquisitely, perhaps also more morbidly, sensitive; and the hotter sun of the West has developed our Northern growths into a semi-tropical luxuriance of foliage and ardency of hue. In the lower class of American writers—the journalists and common magazine scribblers—this development ends in an abominable waste of poor and flaring weeds; but in authors such as Mr.

* Soundings from the Atlantic. By Oliver Wendell Holmes. Boston: Ticknor & Fields. London: Sampson Low, Son, & Marston.

Holmes, it has undeniably led to the addition of a very peculiar, rich, and striking territory to the literature of our common mother tongue.

Various influences have contributed to this end, besides those of climate, at which we have already glanced. The Puritan settlers of the seventeenth century left to their posterity a habit of spiritual exaltation and enthusiasm which we see perpetuated in the pages of Mr. Holmes and his fellow New Englanders; while the revolutionary struggles of last century, and the Republican form of government which was then established, have combined with that very tendency a degree of freedom of discussion which we do not so often see in the more courtly and discreet writings of Englishmen. The vastness and sublimity of American scenery find their expression in the superb and occasionally exaggerated style of American writers. Something of Red Indian heat and wildness flushes in their wealth and crowd of metaphors; and the psychological ultra-refinements of Germany mingle with British sense and humour. The result of all these combinations, in the special instance before us, is a creation smacking of the soil that bred it. "Soundings from the Atlantic" is a charming collection of essays, full of thought, feeling, fancy, observation, and quiet drollery. It will extend and strengthen Mr. Holmes's reputation in the old country.

The first essay in the volume—"Bread and the Newspaper"—contains a sad and vivid account of the condition of feverish excitement and unrest into which the United States have been thrown since the commencement of this dreadful war. The writer says that in time his countrymen may be forced to give up all their luxuries, but that "bread and the newspaper" must be had as long as they can possibly be procured. Even as it is, all other things are very little cared for. People can think of nothing else than of the war, and the effect of this constant stimulus is showing itself in an increase of nervous disorders:

"A sad disaster to the Federal army was told the other day in the presence of two gentlemen and a lady. Both the gentlemen complained of a sudden feeling at the epigastrium, or, less learnedly, the pit of the stomach, changed colour, and confessed to a slight tremor about the knees. The lady had a '*grande révolution*,' as French patients say, went home, and kept her bed for the rest of the day. Perhaps the reader may smile at the mention of such trivial indispositions, but in more sensitive natures death itself follows in some cases from no more serious cause. An old gentleman fell senseless in fatal apoplexy on hearing of Napoleon's return from Elba. One of our early friends, who recently died of the same complaint, was thought to have had his attack mainly in consequence of the excitements of the time.

"We all know what the *war fever* is in our young men—what a devouring passion it becomes in those whom it assails. Patriotism is the fire of it, no doubt, but this is fed with fuel of all sorts. The love of adventure, the contagion of example, the fear of losing the chance of participating in the great events of the time, the desire of personal distinction, all help to produce those singular transformations which we often witness, turning the most peaceful of our youth into the most ardent of our soldiers. But something of the same fever in a different form reaches a good many of the non-combatants, who have no thought of losing a drop of precious blood belonging to themselves or their families. Some of the symptoms we shall mention are almost universal; they are as plain in the people we meet everywhere as the marks of an influenza when that is prevailing.

"The first is a nervous restlessness of a very peculiar character. Men cannot think, or write, or attend to their ordinary business. They stroll up and down the streets, or saunter out upon the public places. We confessed to an illustrious author that we laid down the volume of his work which we were reading when the war broke out. It was as interesting as a romance, but the romance of the past grew pale before the red light of the terrible present. Meeting the same author not long afterwards, he confessed that he had laid down his pen at the same time that we had closed his book. He could not write about the sixteenth century any more than we could read about it, while the nineteenth was in the very agony and bloody sweat of its great sacrifice.

"Another most eminent scholar told us in all simplicity that he had fallen into such a state that he would read the same telegraphic despatches over and over again in different papers as if they were new, until he felt as if he were an idiot. Who did not do just the same thing, and does not often do it still, now that the first flush of the fever is over? Another person always goes through the side streets on his way for the noon *extra*—he is so afraid somebody will meet him and tell the news he wishes to *read*, first on the bulletin-board, and then in the great capitals and leaded type of the newspaper."

The strange confusion in the sense of time wrought by the war, and the way in which the new struggle brings back memories of the old revolutionary days, are described by the author in a passage of great subtlety and of deep, sad beauty:

"We spoke of the long period seeming to have elapsed since this war began. The buds were then swelling which held the leaves that are still green. It seems as old as Time himself. We cannot fail to observe how the mind brings together the scenes of to-day and those of the old Revolution. We shut up eighty years into each other like the joints of a pocket-telescope. When the young men from Middlesex dropped in Baltimore the other day, it seemed to bring Lexington and the other 19th of April close to us. War has always been the mint in which the world's history has been coined, and now every day or week or month has a new medal for us. It was Warren that the first impression bore in the last great coinage; if it is Ellsworth now, the new face hardly seems fresher than the old. All battle-fields are alike in their main features. The young fellows who fell in our earlier struggle seemed like old men to us until within these few months; now we remember they were like these fiery youth we are cheering as they

go to the fight; it seems as if the grass of our bloody hillside was crimsoned but yesterday, and the cannon-ball imbedded in the church-tower would feel warm if we laid our hand upon it."

"My Hunt after 'the Captain'" is a very touching account of a journey performed by Mr. Holmes in search of a son of his, a captain in the United States army, who was wounded (though not very gravely) in the sanguinary battle of Antietam, in September, 1862. The father, after various disappointments and much going to and fro, found his son on his way home, and fast recovering. The narration may, perhaps, be more interesting to an American than to an Englishman; but no man endowed with natural affections can read such a story without feeling deeply moved. The pathos, however, is in no respect obtruded or overstrained, and is even mingled in a sportive manner with humorous observations of life and charming descriptions of places. The author very truly observes that "when all the faculties are wide awake in pursuit of a single object, or fixed in the spasm of an absorbing question, they are oftentimes clairvoyant in a marvellous degree in respect to many collateral things."

Mr. Holmes appears to take a great interest in photography and the stereoscope, to which he has devoted three papers out of the present ten—papers full of accurate observation and exquisite writing. Here is a passage of great beauty, rising at the end into magnificent eloquence:—

"The distinctness of the lesser details of a building or a landscape often gives us incidental truths which interest us more than the central object of the picture. Here is Alloway Kirk, in the church-yard of which you may read a real story by the side of the ruin that tells of more romantic fiction. There stands the stone 'Erected by James Russell, seedsman, Ayr, in memory of his children,'—three little boys, James and Thomas and John, all snatched away from him in the space of three successive summer days, and lying under the matted grass in the shadow of the old, witch-haunted walls. It was Burns's Alloway Kirk we paid for, and we find we have bought a share in the griefs of James Russell, seedsman; for is not the stone that tells this blinding sorrow of real life the true centre of the picture, and not the roofless pile which reminds us of an idle legend?

"We have often found these incidental glimpses of life and death running away with us from the main object the picture was meant to delineate. The more evidently accidental their introduction, the more trivial they are in themselves, the more they take hold of the imagination. It is common to find an object in one of the twin pictures which we miss in the other; the person or the vehicle having moved in the interval of taking the two photographs. There is before us a view of the Pool of David at Hebron, in which a shadowy figure appears at the water's edge in the right-hand corner of the right-hand picture only. This muffled shape, stealing silently into the solemn scene, has already written a hundred biographies in our imagination. In the lovely glass stereograph of the Lake of Brienz, on the left-hand side, a vaguely hinted female figure stands by the margin of the fair water; on the other side of the picture she is not seen. This is life; we seem to see her come and go. All the longings, passions, experiences, possibilities of womanhood animate that gliding shadow which has flitted through our consciousness, nameless, dateless, featureless, yet more profoundly real than the sharpest of portraits traced by a human hand. Here is the Fountain of the Ogre, at Berne. In the right picture two women are chatting, with arms akimbo, over its basin; before the plate for the left picture is got ready, 'one shall be taken and the other left'; look! on the left side there is but one woman, and you may see the blur where the other is melting into thin air as she fades for ever from your eyes.

"O, infinite volumes of poems that I treasure in this small library of glass and pastboard! I creep over the vast features of Rameses, on the face of his rock-hewn Nubian temple; I scale the huge mountain-crystal that calls itself the Pyramid of Cheops. I pace the length of the three Titanic stones of the wall of Baalbec,—mightyest masses of quarried rock that man has lifted into the air; and then I dive into some mass of foliage with my microscope, and trace the veinings of a leaf so delicately wrought in the painting not made with hands that I can almost see its down and the green aphid that sucks its juices. I look into the eyes of the caged tiger, and on the scaly train of the crocodile, stretched on the sands of the river that has mirrored a hundred dynasties. I stroll through Rhenish vineyards, I sit under Roman arches, I walk the streets of once buried cities, I look into the chasms of Alpine glaciers, and on the rush of wasteful cataracts. I pass, in a moment, from the banks of the Charles to the ford of the Jordan, and leave my outward frame in the arm-chair at my table, while in spirit I am looking down upon Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives."

The following is a strange, grotesque, and yet not altogether unlikely speculation:—

"Form is henceforth divorced from matter. In fact, matter as a visible object is of no great use any longer, except as the mould of which form is shaped.* Give us a few negatives of a thing worth seeing, taken from different points of view, and that is all we want of it. Pull it down or burn it up if you please. We must, perhaps, sacrifice some luxury in the loss of colour; but form and light and shade are the great things, and even colour can be added, and perhaps by and by may be got direct from Nature.

"There is only one Colosseum or Pantheon; but how many millions of potential negatives have they shed—representatives of billions of pictures—since they were erected! Matter in large masses must always be fixed and dear; form is cheap and transportable. We have got the fruit of creation now, and need not trouble ourselves with the core. Every conceivable object of nature and art will soon scale off its surface for us. Men will hunt all curious, beautiful, grand objects, as they hunt the cattle in South America for their skins, and leave the carcasses as of little worth.

"The consequence of this will soon be such an enormous collection of forms that they will have to be classified and arranged in vast libraries, as books are now. The time will come when a man who wishes to see any object, natural or artificial, will go to the Imperial, National, or City Stereographic Library, and call for its skin or form as he would for a book at any common library. We do now distinctly propose the creation of a comprehensive and systematic stereographic library, where all men can find the special forms they particularly desire to see as artists, or as scholars, or as mechanics, or in any other capacity. Already a workman has been travelling about the country with stereographic views of furniture, showing his employers patterns in this way, and taking orders for them. This is a mere hint of what is coming before long."

A curious American invention, in connection with the stereoscope, is described in one of the essays:—

"We are allowed to mention the remarkable instrument contrived by our friend, Dr. H. J. Bigelow, for holding fifty glass slides. The spectator looks in: all is darkness. He turns a crank: the grey dawn of morning steals over some beautiful scene or the *façade* of a stately temple. Still, as he turns, the morning brightens through various tints of rose and purple, until it reaches the golden richness of high noon. Still turning, all at once night shuts down upon the picture as at a tropical sunset, suddenly, without blur or gradual dimness."

The essay on "The Great Instrument" is an interesting account of a magnificent organ which has just been set up in the Boston Music Hall. "A Visit to the Asylum for Aged and Decayed Punsters" is full of quaint and pleasant humour. "The Inevitable Trial" is an oration delivered by Mr. Holmes before the city authorities of Boston on the 4th of last July. It has reference, as the reader will easily infer, to the civil war between the North and South, and is, of course, very Northern in its tone, and not without a spice of that angry feeling towards England which at the present moment possesses so many American minds. But we forgive Mr. Holmes, partly because it is natural, in the spasm of a great crisis, for men to feel annoyed with all outsiders who cannot go the length of their own enthusiasm, and partly for the sake of the otherwise delightful volume, which we now dismiss.

LECTURES ON BUTLER'S ANALOGY.*

In no part of the United Kingdom has the experiment of a Young Men's Christian Association in connection with the National Church been more successful than in Dublin. A few years ago, under the presidency of the late Archbishop of Dublin, and by the exertions of some of the leading Churchmen of that city, a society of this kind was there established, which has since grown into enormous proportions with almost the rapidity of a mushroom, the members of which comprise young men of all classes, including a very large number from the several great city mercantile houses. To these young men, in addition to the public monthly lectures by celebrated persons from all parts of the Three Kingdoms, which have been so successful, private lectures in the class-rooms of the association are from time to time delivered by leading Churchmen of the city, both clerical and lay. The volume before us is a series from the pen of a distinguished statesman and judge, not unknown in England—the Right Hon. Joseph Napier, ex-Chancellor of Ireland, who to his other varied acquirements adds a no less extensive acquaintance with theological subjects. Feeling the great value of a knowledge of Butler's "Analogy" to steady young men in their religious convictions and preserve them from scepticism, Mr. Napier's object was, by a commentary on the more difficult portions of that great work, and the aid which modern literature affords, to assist young persons who, on commencing its study, are often repelled by the depth of the subject as well as the heaviness of style in which Butler wrote. In this attempt Mr. Napier has certainly to a large extent succeeded. The style is clear and simple, enlivened here and there by apt illustrations and pointed quotations. The lesser difficulties are passed over, in order that the author may concentrate his efforts on the greater and more important ones; and everything is made plain, as a writer who has an abundant command of language, a clear conception of his subject, and an earnest desire to impart information, will rarely fail to do. No doubt there is much in Butler that is now rather antiquated, which may be improved, or may receive some useful additions from the discoveries of modern science and criticism; but there are parts, such as the chapter on Moral Discipline and Necessity, which, to our minds, are almost incapable of improvement. These have of course come under Mr. Napier's consideration, but only in order to their explanation. On one question, relative to miracles, in which Mr. Napier seems deeply interested, and to which he has evidently devoted much attention, we shall offer a brief criticism. Everyone knows that the great difficulty in believing miracles arises from their being *miraculous*—that is, contrary to the known course of nature. Hence it has been urged by some that there is a "peculiar presumption" against miracles in general, prior to proof of any one miracle *in particular*. Among the arguments by which Butler proves that no weight is to be attached to this peculiar presumption is one which several thinkers, including Mr. Mill and Bishop Fitzgerald of Killaloe, pronounce to be illogical. It may be briefly stated as follows:—There is a *presumption* of millions to one against any possible

* Lectures on Butler's Analogy of Religion, &c. By the Right Hon. Joseph Napier, LL.D. Dublin: Hodges & Smith.

ordinary fact as that Calcutta—
—which yet I believe on ordinary effect. The presumption, though This certainly Butler has held "probability" him. Mr. Napier is supported by authorities on solution of the on our minds finding *incr* miracles as ap improbability happening at of the doctrin strict mathem balls in a box, it—that No. 7 that it should no one doubts Improbability bility after fact and creditably credible that it nor likelihood before the fact with Mr. Mill, consider that the term "prob of a peculiarity other details, a tionable side-as this as the tr purely verbal.

ADV

THE princip six or seven ye many collections part of the P author seems to as it is a work pains, and upon sent his claims just to accord and plan of t extends so far summer Day's spirit of the p succession of stances the un Mr. Barter's, author's spirit adventures in receives an inv poets, an island That, in a poet five thousand and space to co the reader will going so far as Russia," and so The poem, as bard describing a romantic loc Touched and set hour, and lo "of glistening a the genius of p criticism; a n laboured to a co volume, the great expression of o prosaic character notwithstanding th it, he appears to give us pleasure himself. He m Poesy, say,—

"Her g Nor c For r And W True With

* Adventures of a

By W. G. T. Barter

ordinary fact which might come into one's head being true—such as that Calcutta is at this moment laid in ruins by an earthquake—which yet is capable of almost any proof, and which we should believe on ordinary testimony, were intelligence to arrive to that effect. The presumption of millions to one is immediately overcome. What, therefore, asks Butler, can any additional presumption, though it be peculiar, amount to in the case of miracles? This certainly sounds like a paradox. Mr. Mill says that Butler has here confounded "probability before the fact" with "probability after the fact," and Bishop Fitzgerald agrees with him. Mr. Napier thinks that Butler's argument is sound, and he is supported by no less a thinker than Mr. Mansel. With such authorities on either side, one may well hesitate to attempt a solution of the Gordian knot; but it does irresistibly force itself on our minds that Butler has here fallen into an error by confounding *incredibility* with *improbability*—the incredibility of miracles as apparent violations of nature with the *odds against*, or improbability of, any one of millions of events, all equally possible, happening at any one proposed moment. The latter is a question of the doctrine of chances, and can often be made the subject of strict mathematical demonstration. But of one thousand numbered balls in a box, it is *improbable*—unlikely—there are odds against it—that No. 72 should be the one drawn; but it is not *incredible* that it should be. It is, in fact, perfectly credible; and therefore no one doubts it when the fact is announced that it *is* drawn. Improbability before the fact in such a case there is; but improbability after the fact is a contradiction. Credibility before the fact and credibility after the fact are identical. It was mathematically credible that the ball *should* be drawn, and it is equally credible that it *has been* drawn. Neither in the sense of credibility, nor likelihood as to odds, does the distinction of "probability before the fact and after the fact" hold good. We agree, then, with Mr. Mill, that Butler's argument is unsound, though we consider that the former has himself fallen into confusion in the use of the term "probability." Butler's main line of reasoning in disproof of a peculiarity of presumption against miracles holds good in all its other details, and, being therein perfect, did not require this questionable side-argument to support or strengthen it. We submit this as the true solution of a difficulty the origin of which is purely verbal.

ADVENTURES OF A SUMMER'S EVE.*

The principal poem in this volume, originally published some six or seven years ago, is of a more ambitious character than the many collections of merely fugitive verse which form the greater part of the poetical productions of the present day. As the author seems to insist upon presenting it again to the public, and as it is a work with regard to which he has evidently spared no pains, and upon which he is doubtless prepared to rest for the present his claims to reputation as an original writer, it may be only just to accord to it a few moments' consideration. Both the title and plan of the poem will remind the reader, whose memory extends so far back as a quarter of a century, of the "Midsummer Day's Dream" of Mr. Edwin Atherstone, in which the spirit of the poet soars through the aerial heavens to each in succession of the planetary spheres. Passing by in both instances the unfitness of the titles to the subject of the poems, Mr. Barter's, we may add, records the visionary flight of the author's spirit to the planet Mercury, where, after divers aquatic adventures in the river of memory and the sea of meditation, he receives an invitation to a banquet of bards in the paradise of poets, an island in the intellectual waters of that planetary elysium. That, in a poetical vision comprising half a dozen books and nearly five thousand lines of verse, the author should have had leisure and space to consider many matters celestial no less than sublunar, the reader will be ready enough to believe; but the necessity of going so far as to consider "how Europe postured with regard to Russia," and some other similar questions, may be less intelligible. The poem, as already hinted, is of the nature of a vision, the bard describing himself as walking on a summer's evening in a romantic locality called, poetically enough, "the Hog's-back." Touched and soothed at heart by the balmy influences of the sunset hour, and lost in meditation, he is suddenly accosted by a spirit "of glistering shape and aspect bland," whom at first he takes for the genius of poetry, but who proves to be only the spirit of criticism; a mistake under which the author seems to have laboured to a considerable extent throughout the remainder of the volume, the greater part of the work being occupied with the mere expression of opinion upon a variety of topics of an unusually prosaic character. As, however, on the subject of criticism, notwithstanding that Mr. Barter seems to have suffered much from it, he appears to entertain sound and charitable views, which it gives us pleasure to endorse, he shall speak upon this point for himself. He makes the spirit, Criticism, alluding to her sister, Poesy, say,—

"Her gift do men call genius, mine the critic's skill,
Nor deem it light, although a lesser gift;
For noblest natures it becomes the best,
And critic's office asks a man both wise and good,
With knowledge large and skill to use it right.
True critic is true hearted and sincere,
With genius he hath honest sympathy;

* Adventures of a Summer's Eve. A Poem, in Six Books; and Other Poems. By W. G. T. Barter, Esq. London: Bell & Daldy.

Its triumphs thrill his soul with true delight.
No felon pleasure his to mark its fall,
But sorrow, and the wish to point thereby
Some better way another's nobler flight."

Having been, we infer, very harshly and unjustly dealt with by certain pseudo-critics,—

"Of temper choleric as the testy bull
That rushes at a rag because it's red;" —

Mr. Barter goes on to say, in a manly and probably truthful spirit, that—

"To work out even of a single age
The aspirations and poetic longings
Is not the work of single bard, nor all the bards
Of that sole age, but of the brotherhood
From time's first dawning to the present hour,
Whose pregnant meanings reach out eager hands
And hail the future, yea, for all are one."

On this matter, both here and in his preface, we must do Mr. Barter the justice to add that he writes very feelingly and sensibly. Other subjects, such as the relations of education to the governing power of the State, the nature of that governing power, whether it should be democratic or what, and the history of the Crimean war, based upon the intensely patriotic, but distorted and superficial, reports of newspaper correspondents, seem to us subjects not so much adapted to poetry as to the columns of the periodical press. We have no space to follow the author in his aerial voyage to the little planet "which hovereth, mothlike, round the sun," nor to record his impressions of the sublime symposium which there takes place, where Homer, Dante, Shakespeare, and other archangelic spirits of the Hermetic elysium, delight their audience with the utterances of wit and wisdom; utterances, however, which Mr. Barter kindly requests us to consider as better imagined than reported. Mr. Barter's minor poems consist of what are called occasional verses, or verses on domestic subjects, and translations. Some of the latter, principally from Horace, are tolerable; others not to be endured. Witness such verses as the following:—

"With heavier fall
Down crashing come the high towers do."

And this utter uncouthness of expression is, unfortunately, one of the peculiarities by which the author's translations of the "Iliad" and the "Odyssey" are distinguished. Such versions, in the attempt to preserve literality of meaning, only lead to a clumsy rudeness of style. Neither is the translation from "Faust" at all a happy one, nor equal to those given by Fillmore and Talbot.

HORSE MANAGEMENT AND HORSE RECREATIONS.*

HERE are two books on horses, each possessing its own special interest for country gentlemen, and for town gentlemen too if they are in any way connected with equine matters. Mr. Edward Mayhew's "Illustrated Horse Management" treats of the anatomy of the animal; of the proper mode of physicing and shoeing him; of his teeth, food, and "vices;" of the right and the wrong method of making and ordering his stables; of the manners, habits, faults, and common characteristics displayed by grooms, dealers, breeders, breakers, and trainers; and of carriages and harness. The author has been well known for many years as a skilful veterinary surgeon and an astute writer on the subject which has mainly engaged his attention; and the bulky volume he now puts forth has been composed mainly with the humane intention of alleviating those gratuitous sufferings which horses are made to endure, owing to the stupidity, ignorance, and callous feeling of the men who tend them, ride them, or drive them. It is, indeed, infinitely sad and humiliating to reflect on the miseries to which human beings subject a noble, affectionate, and docile creature, whose so-called "vices" are generally nothing but the result of timidity, of an abused nervous organization, or of a natural lovingness rendered sullen or fierce by prolonged ill-treatment. Mr. Mayhew mentions a remarkable fact, as proving that the horse is by nature a very placable creature. He possesses a full-sized liver, but "the gland exhibits no receptacle in which any excess of biliary secretion may be retained." The same organization is observable in doves, and no animal so formed is prone to ferocity. Yet horses are frequently made ferocious by the cruelty of their human tyrants. Mr. Rarey (of whom Mr. Mayhew speaks highly) commented on this truth when he was in England some few years ago, and showed how, by a little sense and kindness, even a "vicious" steed may be thoroughly reformed. The general public, we fear, know but little of the sufferings of horses—even of those which are supposed to lead luxurious lives. It is not merely overworking and hard blows; the poor creatures when at rest are confined for long hours in unhealthy, ill-ventilated stables, in darkness and bad air, and under mechanical conditions which are often an outrage on all the requirements of their structure. A truly pathetic account is given by Mr. Mayhew of the irksome captivity of the stalls, and of the devices to which the animals resort to relieve the

* The Illustrated Horse Management. By Edward Mayhew, M.R.C.V.S., Author of "The Illustrated Horse Doctor," and other Works. Embellished with more than Four Hundred Engravings, from Original Designs made expressly for this work. London: W. H. Allen & Co.

Hunting Tours, descriptive of various Fashionable Countries and Establishments, with Anecdotes of Masters of Hounds and others connected with Foxhunting. By "Cecil." London: Saunders, Otley, & Co.

oppressive monotony of their imprisonment—such as swaying about from one foot to another, searching for stray grains of corn in the bins, gnawing the woodwork of the stalls, looking with almost human interest towards any stranger who may enter the stable, and so forth; for all which high crimes and misdemeanours the offenders are pretty certain to be severely punished. A horse that has been kept long in a darkened stable acquires a moped and dejected expression, very pitiable to see in a quadruped which is all fire and animation when leading a proper life. Several suggestions are made by Mr. Mayhew for improving the building of stables, and making them more agreeable to their four-footed inmates; and indeed the whole purport of the book is wise and humane. We should be glad to see those parts which more particularly relate to grooms, ostlers, and stable-keepers, reprinted in a simpler and cheaper form, for the benefit of the class which stands in such great need of instruction. As it is, the volume will only be read by men of wealth and education; but even they may profit by it. It is very handsomely printed, and full of excellent illustrations.

"Cecil's" work will be a delight to huntsmen. It describes the different hunting "countries" (meaning by "countries," districts), and the hounds owned by the local noblemen and gentlemen; as, for instance, "the Albrighton country and Mr. Stubbs's hounds," "the Atherton country and Lord Curzon's hounds," "the old Berkshire hounds and country," &c. The book is written in a lively and pleasant style, though the subject is too technical for elaborate review in these columns; and a goodly list of subscribers shows that the author possesses friends worth having. The following paragraph regarding the education of a professional huntsman will give the reader an agreeable taste of the volume:

"It would seem that the preliminary education of a huntsman, to be successful, should commence at an extremely early age: there is very ancient authority for this, and we have modern examples. In a most quaint and curious production from the pen of Edmund of Langley, one of the sons of the third Edward, written about the close of the fourteenth century, and one of the earliest authorities on hunting, directions how a huntsman should be trained are given:—'First, he must be a child of eight years of age, or a little older,' and the royal author assigns as a reason for enlisting a youth of such tender years, 'that it is a craft that requireth all a man's life ere he be perfect thereof; and also men saith that what a man learneth in his youth he will hold in his age.' The remarks which follow as to the duties of the kennel are singularly coincident with the customs of modern times. Among other things, it is recommended that 'the hounds' beds should be made of timber at least a foot from the ground, well provided with straw "right thick," because that the moisture from the earth shall not make them morfounde.' Is not this suggestive that kennel lame ness was known even in those primitive days, when the term hunting was meant to include the chase of 'the hare, the herte, the bukke, the roo, the wild boore, the wolf, the ffox, the gray, the cat, the martin, and the otir?' The application as regards early tuition, I must observe, refers to our veteran Jem Hills, who, it will be remembered, commenced at the early age of ten as whipper-in to the Duke of Dorset's Harriers; and George Carter began at a similar age with Mr. Selby Lowndes, at first with harriers and one year with fox-hounds; he then came to whip-in to Sebright, in company with William Turpin."

THE TALISMAN: A DRAMA.*

To all who are in search of the marvellous in incident, or are attracted by the romantic in sentiment, we commend this drama. Beside "The Talisman" itself, "a gem of purest ray serene," and which plays no unimportant part in the drama, we have the redoubtable Sultan Saladin, two Crusading barons—one of them a villain of the deepest, indeed lamp-black, dye—a priest, a wizard "who holds commune with spirits robed in light," a page, a lady disguised as a minstrel, a lord disguised as a friar, a disinterested peasant, officers and attendants of every description (Christian and Turk), together with riders, pilgrims, first and second robbers, and ghosts and spirits *ad libitum*. The scene alternates between Arcadia and the Holy Land. The story is to the following effect—A Baron Heinrich has an infant nephew confided to his charge by a dying sister, which nephew he loves tenderly and brings up with his own son; but the latter, jealous of his father's affection for his cousin Ernest, treats him with such malignity that, to avoid family dissensions, the youth quits his uncle's castle and wanders into distant countries. While in the East he has the good fortune to rescue from the attack of a deadly serpent that had begun to coil around its limbs the infant son of the Sultan. The monarch, by way of recompense, presents him with a jewel of great value, a crescent stone, assuring him that if ever through accident or war his life should be in danger from his subjects, or in his dominions, he has only to transmit this talisman to his imperial majesty, and his life should be saved, and the sender be delivered from all peril. After a lapse of ten years, Ernest, returning home with various curiosities of travel, is wrecked and loses his all, with the exception of this mystic gem. At first landing on his native shore, he learns that a certain hermit is just engaged in preaching the Crusades, a project by which his devout imagination is fired; and almost at the same time he falls in with a Baron Freedman, a fellow magnate of his late uncle (*Arcades ambo*), who informs him of the loss he has unconsciously sustained, and ends by inviting him to partake the hospitalities of his Arcadian castle.

* The Talisman: a Drama. A Tale of the Eleventh Century. By the Author of "St. Bernardine" and "Poems by L." London: H. K. Lewis.

This good baron has a daughter, Ella, with whom, of course, Ernest falls in love; but Ella has already a lover, by no means to her taste, in the person of the young Lord Heinrich, Ernest's ill-natured cousin, who has made himself acquainted with her during Freedman's temporary absence from home, young Heinrich's purpose being to get Ella into his power, and marry her *nolens volens*. Perceiving that her father favours Ernest's suit, he learns with great satisfaction the determination of the two latter to proceed to Palestine, after committing Ella to the care of an old and trustworthy priest, Father Clement, and an aged matron, to pray for and await their return. Before departing, Ernest gives to Ella, for safe keeping, the Sultan's talisman, although it would have much simplified our duties, after the lapse of seven centuries, if he had taken it along with him. A year passes; and Heinrich, disguising himself as a pilgrim friar from the Holy Land, informs Ella that both the knights are prisoners of war, and that the ransom of a thousand golden marks is demanded for them. As this is a greater sum than Ella can muster, seeing that, as she says to her confessor, "We have no funds," she determines to try the virtues of the talisman, and for this purpose, having donned the garb of a youthful minstrel, sets off under the escort of Father Clement. Before they have proceeded far, however, the aged priest, as might have been expected, falls sick, and, after his commanding his companion to the care of Providence, expressing his fears for her safety, and urging her to return, she replies,—in what we think the best lines in the drama,—

"Father, I know that I am young in years,
And therefore hope o'ercometh low-born fears,
Rises aloft, and with a prophet's pen
Thus whispereth to me: 'Are not mortal men
Made in God's image wheresoever found?
Oh, with true faith, each place is holy ground.'
Thou bid'st me—being beautiful—beware;
Alarms so light and vain disperse in air.
Mortality's frail garb but takes the hue
Of the deep soul that shines its features through;
And, where the spirit's glance is pure and bright,
Pure glance alone from all it doth invite."

Finally, however, the old man dies in a cottage, where they had taken refuge on account of his illness, inhabited by a kind-hearted old peasant woman and her grandson, Jerome, who declares—

"In all his life he ne'er
Had seen a minstrel so surpassing fair;
No minstrel youth, an angel from the sky,
Is he, in garment of mortality;
Who until now has tuned in heavenly sphere
His harp, where angels crowded round to hear."

The minstrel's sex, however, is soon detected by the mother, and the son prevails upon her to allow him to accompany her upon her travels as an attendant. Disaster soon overtakes the adventurous pair. They are attacked by robbers, sent for that purpose by Heinrich, who, though he treats Ella with repeated imprisonment and perpetual insolence, candidly confesses that these delicate attentions fail to impress her heart favourably; at the same time exclaiming,—

"Would she but be mine,
She should be worshipped as a thing divine."

After divers incidents of this kind and an awful incantation scene, in which the wizard Glenaroon evokes spirits from the vasty deep, the concluding act brings all the principal personages together in Palestine,—Ernest, Ella, Jerome, Sultan Saladin, and the two noble lords, Freedman and Heinrich; but for the marvellous manner in which the various complications of the story are brought to a settlement, we must refer the reader to the volume itself. With the exercise of a more practised pen, and a sterner criticism of her own productions, the authoress may yet do better things.

ENGLAND'S WORKSHOPS.*

This little book will supply a want which must have been felt by all who have desired and sought for information with regard to the various mechanical, chemical, or manufacturing industries which are carried on amongst us on so vast a scale. It is not difficult to obtain a knowledge of the scientific principles on which the various processes depend, but very few descriptions are accessible of the mode in which industrial operations are practically carried on. The prevailing ignorance on these subjects was very obvious during the exhibitions both of 1851 and 1862, and, no doubt, materially detracted from the advantage which they were calculated to confer upon the public. The present work does not profess to give a complete account of each variety amongst the multitude of England's workshops. But we have no doubt that it is a faithful, as it is certainly a very interesting, narrative of a series of visits to some of the great industrial establishments in different parts of the country. The selection of topics is well varied and judicious, and, although amongst half a dozen contributors there must be considerable inequalities of style and treatment, the different accounts are, upon the whole, clearly and graphically, as well as popularly, written. Commencing with the metal workshops, we visit with

* England's Workshops. By Dr. G. L. M. Strauss; C. W. Quin, F.C.S.; John C. Brough; Thomas Archer; W. B. Tegetmeier; and W. J. Prowse. London: Groombridge & Sons.

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our authors a number of the most remarkable establishments at Birmingham. The curious machinery by which steel pens are turned out by hundreds of millions per annum at the manufactory of Messrs. Gillott's is first described. At the present time, the account of Mr. Charles Reeves's small arms factory will be read with peculiar attention. But other articles under this head are not less interesting. Taken together, we get from them a not inadequate idea of the vast variety of productions which are turned out in the great "hardware village." We are led in succession through chandelier manufactories; canister makers' works; brass foundries; electro-plating and japanning establishments; shops where edge-tools of the finest make and of every imaginable kind are produced; and others where electro-plating is carried on to a perfection which sets at defiance foreign competition or rivalry. At Ipswich we are taken over the Orwell works, where the Messrs. Ransome construct the agricultural machines and implements for which they are justly celebrated. Sheffield suggests an article on fine cutlery as manufactured at the extensive works of Messrs. Mappin Brothers; while in connection with Wolverhampton we have an account of the manufacture of locks, which is principally carried on in this town and in the neighbouring one of Willenhall. Under the head of chemical workshops we have a series of descriptions of several of the manufactories most in repute, either for the production of the finer or of the grosser kinds of chemicals. "Glass workshops" are represented by those of Messrs. Chance, Brothers, & Co., of Birmingham, and of Messrs. Defries, of Houndsditch. "Provision and supply workshops" introduce us to candle manufactories, lucifer match factories, oil works, provision, cigar, and wholesale grocery establishments, vinegar works, and, although last not least, to the great breweries of Messrs. Allsopp at Burton-upon-Trent. Some idea of the scale on which our favourite "pale ale" is produced may be formed from the extent of the brewery, or rather breweries, of this, which is only one of three or four principal Burton firms:—

"We have already (from the railway station) seen the 'new brewery,'—its immense yard piled with whole acres of casks and barrels, but it is the old brewery in the High-street that we are about to visit. The existing building, which was erected in place of the original one in the present century, extends over a considerably larger space than it did even at the time of its erection, for necessary additions, in consequence of the great increase in the trade, have extended its area to several acres; and when it is considered that the new brewery, and the other branches of the establishment, with which this is connected by private lines of railway, employ about 1,000 men, that beside the 245,000 casks already in use, 30,000 are made annually, and that during the brewing season the copper fires consume at least 100 tons of coals a day, the increased importance of the Burton ale trade may be better understood."

Finally, the cotton manufacture is illustrated by a description of Messrs. Evans's mills at Derby; and lovers of the piano may learn all about the construction of their favourite instrument from a writer who has visited Mr. Cadby's manufactory in Gray's Inn-road, and tells us concisely and clearly what he saw there. Altogether a great deal of ground is covered—and well covered, too—in this survey of British industry. The true course is adopted of describing visits to actual works, instead of merely giving an account of processes in the abstract. Nor do we think that any one who cares to know something of the condition and achievements of our multifarious industry, will ever regret accompanying the six authors of this work in their manufacturing pilgrimage.

THE BRITISH EMPIRE.*

MRS. BRAY states in her preface that the volume she now puts forth originated in a suggestion made to her a few years ago, to the effect that "a geographical work was needed, which should give a more practical and familiar acquaintance with our country and its foreign possessions than is usually gained in English education, and show, simply and briefly, the connection between our political and social conditions and their natural causes—the origin of our laws and institutions—of our home trades and commercial relations, and especially the process of growth by which England has made homes for her people in every quarter of the globe." There can be no doubt that such a work was wanted, and we find it here supplied in an excellent form, and with great intelligence. The authoress divides her book into seven parts, treating of the growth of the empire, of the British Isles, and of our possessions in Europe, in Asia, in Africa, in America, and in Australia. The second part is itself subdivided into various heads, describing the geography and geology of Great Britain, Ireland, and the adjacent isles; the races of men inhabiting them, their languages and religious beliefs; the constitution, political divisions, forms of government, departments of state, social usages, and internal communications. In the other parts, a condensed, but very inclusive, account is given of the numerous colonies and dependencies which we own in all parts of the world. We do not know any work of the same size and popular character calculated to impress the general reader with so vivid an idea of the wonderful story of our greatness, and of the progress of our civilization. The information has been laboriously collected from a vast number of scattered sources; the arrangement is simple and lucid, and the authoress has

the happy art of conveying facts in an agreeable form. Here, for instance, is a curious paragraph on the area and population of the empire:—

"The area of the British Empire is 4,369,729 square miles; its population (1861) is 224,389,000. Hence our Queen reigns over nearly one-third of the land of the earth, and about a fifth of its population. Scarcely fewer than thirty native languages are spoken by her subjects: for instance—English, French, Italian, Dutch, Spanish, Portuguese, Hebrew, Greek, Persian, Arabic, Maltese, Chinese, Armenian, Hindostane, Bengalee, Mahratti, Tamil, Telugu, Carnatica, Ooria, Singalese, Malay, Burmese, Hottentot, Kaffre, Negro, Maori, besides many barbarous tongues which have not been formed into written languages. In her Majesty's realm there are four great established religions, the Christian, the Brahman, the Mohammedan, the Buddhist. Of these the Christians number, at a rough estimate, 34,031,164; the disciples of Brahma, 50,000,000; the Mohammedans, 20,000,000; the Buddhists, 10,000,000. In form, feature, habits of life, and modes of thought, the British subjects exhibit as many diversities as can possibly exist in the members of the human family. Place side by side an Englishman, a Hindoo from British India, an Arab from Aden, a Chinese from Hong Kong, a Negro from South Africa, an Indian from North America, and a native Australian, and we shall have specimens of each of the great types of the human race. Assemble together an educated Englishman and a heavy untutored Hottentot; a lively French Canadian and a grave and bellicose Red Indian; a rice-eating Hindoo and a man-eating New Zealander; a graceful Ionian and a lumpy Esquimaux; and between all these subjects of one Sovereign there would be as little in common as could possibly exist between inhabitants of the same planet."

The population of Great Britain is thus analyzed:—

"As trade and intercourse with foreigners increased, many fresh types were introduced among our already varied races. Nearly all our manufacturing towns have mainly derived their population from vast numbers of foreign operatives, who have planted themselves there for the sake of the special trade in which they were skilled; and this, it is said, accounts for the fact that dark complexions are mostly found in manufacturing towns, while in the agricultural districts, the light, native Saxon complexions chiefly prevail. For instance, in Spitalfields and other silk manufacturing districts, the Huguenot variety is frequent (that is, the descendants of the early French Protestants), characterized as 'rather under middle size; flat face and small features, with nose bevelled at the point; industrious, economical, and temperate, but fond of dress and show; temperament, nervous-phlegmatic.' and in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries the Flemings introduced themselves and their manufactures into many of our towns; their type being distinguished as 'stout and phlegmatic, plodding and ingenuous, dark-complexioned and bad-looking.' Of course, from many causes, the large towns show a greater variety of types than the country districts, and also a more constant change in the elements of the population. In London, where the Teutonic character decidedly predominates, the types are exceedingly numerous, but, nevertheless, it is said, well-marked and distinct from each other. In Edinburgh the Teutonic population is scarcely two-thirds; in Dublin the Celtic prevails. In Liverpool the Teutonic predominates in the higher classes, but, owing to the influx of the Irish, the Teutonic and Celtic about balance one another among the lower. In Birmingham, Manchester, Leeds, and Glasgow the Celtic is also on the increase, owing to the constant immigration of the Irish."

We have all heard a good deal recently of the petroleum or rock oil of Canada; but Mrs. Bray's account of it will probably be new to some of our readers:—

"A peculiar product, the rock-oil, or petroleum, has lately been added to the mineral treasures of Canada. This oil exists in the cavities of limestone rocks, which are supposed to have been of marine origin from their containing myriads of the remains of marine animals; and the oil is the result of the decomposition of the animal tissue. The oil-bearing limestone of Canada West is believed to extend over an area of 7,000 square miles; and a single boring, carried to the depth of 200 feet, has been known to yield 2,000 barrels of oil, of forty gallons each, per day, for several days after being first opened. The soil lies at various depths; but the oil is purer and more abundant at the lower depths. In some few cases it rises above the level of the ground and forms floating wells, and in some instances natural springs of it have been found. In November, 1862, an Oil-Wells Company was formed. The towns of Toronto, Niagara, and Kingston are now lighted by gas derived from this oil, as are railway carriages and many private houses. The gas is of great brilliancy. Six thousand cubic feet are obtained from a barrel of oil."

Mrs. Bray's volume is admirably adapted for schools; but there are many persons of ripe years and fair attainments who might derive knowledge from its perusal. Every page teems with choice and valuable information; and he must be a deeply read and much remembering man who could carry in his mind all that is compressed within these covers. It is one of the best pieces of compilation we have ever examined.

ABYSSINIA.*

UNDER the title of "The Tiger Prince," Mr. Dalton has produced a book of travels and adventures through Abyssinia and along a portion of the eastern coast of Africa. It is not, however, a personal narrative of the author's own experiences, but a collection of facts, historical legends, and other circumstances relating to that part of

* The British Empire: a Sketch of the Geography, Growth, Natural and Political Features of the United Kingdom, its Colonies and Dependencies. By Caroline Bray, Author of "Physiology for Schools." London: Longman & Co.

* The Tiger Prince; or, Adventures in the Wilds of Abyssinia. By William Dalton, Author of "The Wolf-Boy of China," "The Nest Hunters," London: Virtue, Brothers.

the world, compiled from the works of several writers (particularly Mr. Mansfield Parkyns, whom our author frequently quotes in the course of his book), and here told in the form of a fictitious, auto-biographical story, instead of a mere dry description of people and things. The work is thus made to appear more real and life-like, and therefore more amusing to young persons, than if it had been narrated after the latter method.

Lieutenant Bevan, an officer in the English army, being taken ill on his way from England to join his regiment in India, and his medical attendant dying on the passage, is obliged to be carried ashore, and "bilked" at the British Hotel, Grand Cairo, where he is attended by a Scottish doctor, who happens to be residing in Egypt as chief of the Viceroy's medical staff. Recovering from his illness, and subsequently "selling out" of her Majesty's service, the hero of this book, having learnt that his physician is about to travel in Abyssinia, to attend professionally the royal person of the Tiger Prince himself, ultimately prevails upon the doctor to let him go also. Accordingly, they both proceed to that country, travelling there by water, our hero attended by his faithful Irish servant. The history of their voyage, and of the various adventures that befel them on their route thither and back again, as well as during their temporary stay in Abyssinia, is an amusing narrative of its kind, giving a concise, and we believe correct, account of the manners, customs, modes of life, &c., of a people at present but little known to the rest of the world, and who, although they have long since embraced the Christian religion, are still living in a very primitive and more than semi-barbarous condition. The book is also full of perilous and romantic adventures, marvellous escapes from death, fights with natives, desperate affrays with blacks, sharp encounters with monkeys, and similar incidents. We have, amongst other things, an elaborate account of an Abyssinian wedding, with a description of the "breakfast," and of the festivities accompanying the ceremony; an Abyssinian "detective" police case, and the trial and strange acquittal of a boy for homicide; a night with Abyssinian priests; and a chapter on the horrors of the wilderness, which last forcibly reminds one of the dangers of the mysterious old Desert of Lop, so graphically described by Marco Polo. The whole narrative, which is well interwoven, and has much the semblance of a real journal of actual travels and experiences abroad, is, for the most part, vividly told, and in a lucid and easy style, occasionally interspersed with some humorous speeches from Lieutenant Bevan's Irish servant. The book is very prettily brought out, with a few good illustrations by Mr. G. P. Nicholls.

PROTESTANTISM IN ITALY.*

SOME important documents are added to this second edition of Canon Wordsworth's valuable work on the existing state of religion in Italy. Besides a new Preface by the reverend author himself, we have a very curious communication from an Italian friend in holy orders in the Church of Rome, and a letter from an English Churchman who has recently returned from the Peninsula, both having reference to the widely extended and earnest movement now going on in that country against the abuses of the Papacy. It would appear that the reaction of the Italian mind from the tyranny and superstition of Rome is far more serious than is generally supposed in England. A great number of the priesthood have all but renounced the Papal authority, while others have openly forsaken the clerical profession, and ranged themselves in opposition to the Sovereign Pontiff. Bibles and works of Protestant divinity are largely circulated by the *colporteurs*, and eagerly bought by the people, especially in the South. An ex-priest has proclaimed the doctrines of the English Church in the streets of many cities, and Sicily is said to be already very nearly converted to the Reformed faith. Possibly the enthusiasm of the writers may a little exaggerate these facts; but it cannot be questioned that Italy is getting heartily sick of the folly, fanaticism, and despotic power enthroned at the Vatican. Let us trust that the arrival of a better day may not be far distant, for at present the land is verging on anarchy. We read in the Italian priest's letter :—

" Some parish priests have used the excommunications fulminated by the Pope against the present state of affairs, in order to disturb the consciences of the dying, and have denied them the consolations of religion unless they made retraction. Rome has become the centre of reaction and conspiracies, and brigands issue from her, who carry fire and slaughter into the South of Italy. From her also go forth the collectors of Peter's pence to subsidize the arms of the Pope. The bishops of Italy, being engaged in promoting the cause of the Pope, their master, are forgetful of their sacred office as pastors of the Church, and throw obstacles in the way of government, and stir up anger and strife among the flock committed to their care. But they have lost their ancient influence, and incur criminal lawsuits, commenced by the government against them in its own defence, and to hinder greater evils. Cardinal De Angelis, Archbishop of Fermo, is now confined at Turin, with another bishop, for political reasons; and the Cardinal Archbishop of Pisa was in confinement for some months on the charge of fomenting discord in his diocese. The Archbishop of Spoleto converted a pastoral letter into a violent Philippic against the king and government, exciting the people to rebellion, and is now in prison. Some also of the bishops of the South of Italy are in

⁸ Journal of a Tour in Italy, with Reflections on the Present Condition and Prospects of Religion in that Country. By Chr. Wordsworth, D.D., Canon of Westminster. Second Edition. London: Rivingtons.

prison for political causes, and several of them are fugitives from their dioceses.

"In the mean time, what has become of Christianity?

"If it were not too bold to make such an assertion, I should say that in many quarters it is almost dead. The shepherds of Christ's flock are intent on earthly things; they endeavour to dazzle and divert the people with pompous processions and gaudy festivals, or to fill their imaginations with superstitious dreams. But the healthful pastures of salvation are abandoned. The sheep of Christ are not nourished with the food of the Gospel. Both high and low allow their eyes and ears to be fascinated with religious spectacles, but do not amend their lives. The middle classes are becoming sceptical and incredulous, and throw, as it were, together into one promiscuous heap of confusion the temporal power of the Pope, the worship of the Virgin and the saints, the Christian faith and sacraments; and they assert them all to be only a shop of secular traffic, by means of which money and power may be gotten by the clergy."

The English clergyman states, from what he observed during a tour through the whole length of Italy last winter, that many priests and laymen are convinced of the following reforms being imperatively necessary :—

- "(1.) Full and free restoration of the Bible to all classes of the Laity.
- "(2.) Restoration of the Liturgy in the vernacular tongue.
- "(3.) Abolition of the enforced Celibacy of the Priesthood.
- "(4.) Restoration of the ancient independent Diocesan rights of the Bishops, in lieu of their present vassalage to Rome; also the rights of Clergy and Laity in Diocesan Synods and general management of Church affairs."

We recommend the study of Canon Wordsworth's volumes to Protestants, whether lay or clerical, and to all men of liberal and progressive views.

THE PENTATEUCH CONTROVERSY.*

THERE is always a sprinkling of stragglers who fall in one by one after the advance of a large army. These two volumes occupy a similar position with reference to the swarm of critics who, in their flight, have assailed, and, as it would seem, by this time demolished, Dr. Colenso. So exhausted is the subject, so threshed have been the Bishop's critical sheaves, that not a grain is left in which originality can find food for comment. It is no discredit to the authors of these volumes, therefore, to say that very little is added therein to what has been already said on the subject, though when the controversy was rife it is probable they would have done some execution. Mr. Hirschfelder's book is a Canadian production, and has probably been largely read in Canada, especially in Toronto, where the author is lecturer on Oriental literature in University College. The style is clear, full, and vigorous; the subject is Dr. Colenso's first volume, the chapters of which are discussed in the Bishop's own order, which ought to be by this time stereotyped in our minds by the numerous replies which have passed under our review. Mr. Arnold takes a much larger field—the whole ground, in fact, which Dr. Colenso has already gone over—and discusses the composition of Genesis, the authenticity of the Pentateuch, and the Jehovah and Elohim theory on which the Bishop sets so much value. One advantage which Mr. Arnold professes to bring with him to the inquiry is an acquaintance with German literature; but we fear that a lax style of reasoning and half-finished arguments have destroyed the benefits which might have accrued from this source. For instance, he devotes a section to "Writing in the Mosaic Age;" but his proofs, instead of being drawn definitely from *external* sources, are such as Dr. Colenso would pronounce to be reasonings in a circle—arguments, from allusions in the books which are themselves under trial, to writing and its instruments. Surely he ought to have seen that, if they were written at a later age—that of Jeremiah or Samuel, as Dr. Colenso contends—allusions to writing in them could not prove anything beyond that age. The Pentateuch can be defended far more effectively, and by much sounder reasoning.

THE BOOK OF SACRED SONG.†

THIS is, both in spirit and in form, a beautiful, attractive, and valuable volume, comprising a mass of devotional poetry carefully selected from the works mostly of English writers, from the days of Elizabeth to those of Victoria. The selections, principally of the nature of hymns, though not such as are usually found in the manuals prepared for public worship, form, as may be imagined under the judicious arrangement of the editor, a most interesting body of religious verse. As regards their spirit and sentiment in conjunction with the charms of poetry, these pious lyrics may be fitly compared to "apples of gold in pictures of silver." While these compositions, however, are chiefly to be called hymns, it is sufficient to refer to Wordsworth's sonnets, Byron's "Destruction of Sennacherib," Mrs. Hemans's "Lines on Death," and various other serious poems, to show that Mr. Kemble has not needlessly

* The Scriptures Defended. A Reply to Bishop Colenso's Book. By J. M. Hirschfelder, Lecturer on Oriental Literature, University College, Toronto. John Rowell, Toronto; and Low, Son & Co., London.

English Biblical Criticism and the Pentateuch. By John Muchleisen-Arnold, B.D., Hon. Sec. Moslem Mission Society. London: Longman, Green, & Co. M.A.

† The Book of Sacred Song : with a Preface by the Rev. Charles Kemble, M.A., Rector of Bath. London : Seeley, Jackson, & Halliday.

adhered to a rigid rule of selection. There is a liberal variety in the list of the names drawn from—Herbert, Quarles, Milton, Jonson, Dryden, the Wesleys, Cowper, Newton, Keble, Montgomery, &c.—which will be to many of its readers one of the highest recommendations of this volume.

CALVINISM versus ARMINIANISM, &c.*

WE here combine two books in one review, on the same principle that husbands are sometimes told to choose their wives by—namely, that of contraries, or because they are the very antipodes of one another, and therefore may each be, to a certain extent, an antidote for the extravagances of the other. The first is an admirable digest, systematic, condensed, terse, and lucid, of religion viewed from the Calvinistic stand-point, and much after the teaching of the Westminster Confession; while in the other that Confession is mercilessly torn into fragments by the learned medical doctor with a zest and relish which, we have no doubt, must before now have strongly impressed the venerable elders of the Scottish Kirk with the conviction that the author is Stark-mad. Dr. Stark's first assault is on the statement in the Catechism, that all Scripture—every portion of it—is inspired. This he denies, maintaining that Scripture only contains the Word of God, and is not in its entirety the Word of God. So far, should he be excommunicated by the Scottish divines, it might have been a satisfaction to him to know that, under the shelter of the late extraordinary judgment of the Committee of Privy Council, he might take refuge in the Church of England. But here another difficulty meets him—Dr. Stark denies also the doctrine of the Trinity. On both these questions the reader will find all that may be said on the other side ably and well put in Mr. Hodge's volume. But Dr. Stark is most of all dissatisfied with the Westminster statements of the doctrines of original sin, predestination, particular redemption, &c., in which he considers that the catechism totally "misrepresents the character of the loving God and Father of all," describes him as "not acting on the principle of justice," and leads "to an utter confusion of all principles of right and wrong." On these points he and Mr. Hodge are as far as the poles asunder, as may be seen by the following quotation from Mr. Hodge's work on the question of "the purpose of the Son in dying, and of the Father in giving his Son to die":—

"The design of God, then, in the Atonement was—

"1. That Christ should bear the penalty which Justice denounced on his own people.

"2. That he should not merely make the salvation of those for whom he died possible, but that he should actually achieve it for them, and freely present it to them.

"The Arminian view, therefore, differs from the Calvinistic in two points. They maintain that Christ died—1. For the relief of all men. 2. To make salvation possible. We hold, on the other hand, that Christ died—1. For his elect. 2. To make their salvation certain."

This passage clearly sets forth the points of difference between the two parties, of which our two authors are so far true representatives, on a question which has long agitated the world, and probably will continue to do so to its end.

To almost every chapter and clause in the Catechism does Dr. Stark make objections more or less strongly urged, which he finally closes by calling on the clergy of the Scottish Church, "as the National Church, to petition the Legislature to appoint a commission to revise these national articles of faith"—an invitation not very likely to be accepted.

THACKERAY'S LAST STORY.†

WITH a melancholy interest we open the March number of the *Cornhill Magazine*, and read the first three chapters of Thackeray's last story, "Denis Duval." As previously announced, the tale is in an autobiographical form, the supposed narrator being Denis himself. He is the grandson of a French Protestant couple, who came to Winchelsea with many more of their countrymen and countrywomen at the time of the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes. His mother is also a Frenchwoman, or rather a semi-German native of Alsace, and she has a foster-sister, Clarisse, who marries a gloomy Huguenot nobleman, the Vicomte de Barr, afterwards, on the death of his father, the Comte de Saverne. Her husband is much older than herself, and a man of a violent temper, though really attached to his wife; and the poor lady, being almost moped to death in the dismal old family chateau, carries on a species of intrigue (though not of a positively criminal nature) with one M. de la Motte during the absence of her husband with the French army, becomes a Roman Catholic, and flies to England with her infant child, but is so shattered with excitement that she becomes insane. The Count follows her, and challenges M. de la Motte, who has also come to this country. They recross to Boulogne, and, in an encounter with pistols on the sands, the nobleman is shot in the right breast. Here the number ends; but, as about five-and-thirty pages are given in the *Cornhill*,

* Outlines of Theology. By the Rev. A. A. Hodge. Edited by W. H. Goold, B.D. London: T. Nelson & Sons.

The Westminster Confession of Faith Critically Compared with the Holy Scriptures and Found Wanting, &c. By James Stark, M.D., Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. London: Longman, Green, & Co.

† The *Cornhill Magazine* for March. London: Smith, Elder, & Co.

the reader has a good taste of the story. Judging from this first instalment, we should say the tale is fuller of incident than Thackeray's novels generally were. The treatment is in the author's usually quiet manner, but abounding in pathos and latent power. The picture of French life and manners is perfect, though we think there is a little affectation in giving so much of the dialogue in the French language; and the slight incidental bits of description are beautifully and delicately sketched. In this tragic style is the return of M. de la Motte after the duel recorded towards the close of the number:—

"Mother was quite quiet and gentle all that day. It seemed as if something scared her. The poor countess prattled and laughed, or cried in her unconscious way. But grandfather at evening prayer that night making the exposition rather long, mother stamped her foot, and said, 'Assez bavardé comme ça, mon père,' and sank back in her chair with her apron over her face.

"She remained all next day very silent, crying often, and reading in our great German Bible. She was kind to me that day. I remember her saying, in her deep voice, 'Thou art a brave boy, Denikin.' It was seldom she patted my head so softly. That night our patient was very wild, and laughing a great deal, and singing so that the people would stop in the streets to listen.

"Doctor Barnard again met me that day, dragging my little carriage, and he fetched me into the Rectory for the first time, and gave me cake and wine, and the book of the 'Arabian Nights,' and the ladies admired the little baby, and said it was a pity it was a little Papist, and the doctor hoped I was not going to turn Papist, and I said, 'Oh, never.' Neither mother nor I liked that darkling Roman Catholic clergyman who was fetched over from our neighbours at the Priory by M. de la Motte. The chevalier was very firm himself in that religion. I little thought then that I was to see him on a day when his courage and his faith were both to have an awful trial.

"I was reading then in this fine book of Monsieur Galland which the doctor had given me. I had no orders to go to bed, strange to say, and I dare say was peeping into the cave of the Forty Thieves along with Master Ali Baba, when I heard the clock whirring previously to striking twelve, and steps coming rapidly up our empty street.

"Mother started up, looking quite haggard, and undid the bolt of the door. 'C'est lui!' says she, with her eyes starting, and the Chevalier de la Motte came in, looking as white as a corpse.

"Poor Madame de Saverne upstairs, awakened by the striking clock perhaps, began to sing overhead, and the chevalier gave a great start, looking more ghastly than before, as my mother with an awful face looked at him.

"'Il l'a voulu,' says M. de la Motte, hanging down his head; and again poor Madame's crazy voice began to sing."

A capital portrait of Mr. Thackeray, engraved by Mr. J. C. Armytage from a drawing by Mr. Samuel Laurence, accompanies the number.

SHORT NOTICES.

MR. J. S. LAURIE, one of her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools, and editor of the "Graduated" series and the "Standard" series of Reading Books, has commenced a set of "First Class Readers," published by Murby, of Bouvierie-street, and by Simpkin, Marshall, & Co. The purpose which it is desired to serve is "to present, in a succinct and readable form, a connected series of sketches of the more prominent subjects of English literature," as, for instance, "the English Constitution, Political Economy, Descriptive Travel, History, and Physical Science." The editor proposes to produce a small library of little treatises, which shall neither be too bulky and erudite for beginners, nor too dry, bare, and vapid to interest intelligent minds. This is precisely the idea which we noticed last week as having been in some respects satisfactorily carried out in Mr. Davenport Adams's "Scenes from the Drama of European History." Two volumes of Mr. Laurie's "Advanced Readers" are now before us, entitled respectively, *Sketches of the English Constitution*, and *Sketches of Political Economy*. They are thin little octavos, compact, well printed, and ably written. The writer seems to possess the three virtues of great clearness, power of condensation, and attractiveness of style. Political economy is generally looked upon as an abstruse and repulsive subject; but Mr. Laurie has managed to set forth its leading principles in a lucid and agreeable manner. The elements of the English Constitution are also excellently handled; and if the series goes on as it has begun, we have no doubt of its usefulness and success.

A Basket of Fragments, by a Quondam Author (published by Bentley), is a collection of paragraphs, of various lengths, on all kinds of subjects, though mainly religious and moral. The title-page displays a vaunting and not very reverential motto from John, vi. 12:—"Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost." When we recollect who used those words, and on what occasion, it is evident that the "Quondam Author" must have the most exalted opinion of the value of these stray sweepings from his portfolio. It is doubtful whether anybody else will rate them equally high. A few may perhaps be deceived by their sententious brevity into regarding them as so many Orient pearls of wisdom; for there is something very imposing to the inexperienced in the aphoristic form. We have found them, at the best, sensible, shrewd, and well-meaning; at the worst, trite, obvious, and commonplace. But in either case the world would have been no great loser if the whole had perished.

Under the unexplained title of *Ore-fydd's Family Fare: The Young Housewife's Daily Assistant on all Matters relating to Cookery and Housekeeping*, Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall, & Co. have issued an elaborate and useful manual of domestic instruction, containing bills of family fare for every day in the year, inclusive of breakfast and dinner for a small family, and dinner for two servants; also twelve bills of fare for dinner-parties, and two for evening entertainments, with the

cost annexed. The work is mainly designed for families that are in comfortable rather than opulent circumstances; the authoress vouches that the receipts have been tried with complete success at her own table for many years, and borne the test of very critical palates; and some directions touching health and general comfort are added. The instructions are all plainly conveyed, and the volume will be a treasure to those young and inexperienced couples who have just issued out of the honeymoon into the more substantial moons of joints and made dishes.

The better unit of the same couple, when she comes to have the charge of a young family, cannot do better than consult a work of which the seventh edition, just issued, is now before us—*Advice to a Mother on the Management of her Offspring, and on the Treatment of some of their more urgent Diseases*, by Pye Henry Chavasse, F.R.C.S. (Churchill and Sons). Mr. Chavasse is one of those reasonable medical men, more common now than formerly, who are for giving free play to nature, and not overdosing with physic. His directions appear to be marked with good sense and clearness, and he does not confine his attention to infants, but treats also of the maladies incidental to the youth of both sexes.

Golden Words (J. H. & J. Parker, Oxford & London, and Henry Wright, Birmingham) is a collection of passages from our best religious writers on the Scriptures, Prayer, the Lord's Supper, Christ Mystical, the Sabbath, Public Worship, the Heavenly Thrift, Faith, Repentance, and other devotional subjects. The writers include the great names of Dr. Barrow, John Bradford (one of the Protestant martyrs burnt at Smithfield during the reign of Mary), Bishop Coverdale, Ralph Cudworth, Dr. Donne, Sir Matthew Hale, Richard Hooker, Bishops Hooper, Hopkins, and Jewell, Dr. South, Jeremy Taylor, William Tyndale, John Wickliffe, George Wither, &c. Among the less known writers, it is curious to find the name of Dean Addison, father of the celebrated essayist. The general tone of the volume is perhaps rather High Church, but it will recommend itself to all who value the Christian doctrines it reflects and expounds.

Much the same may be said of a similar collection in verse—*Lyra Messianica: Hymns and Verses on the Life of Christ, Ancient and Modern; with other Poems*. Edited by the Rev. Orby Shipley, M.A. (Longman & Co.) This volume, like its predecessor, "Lyra Eucharistica," published under the same editorship, consists for the most part of a translation of ancient and mediaeval Hymns of the Church, of which about ninety pieces are from Latin originals, sixteen or seventeen from the Greek Office Books, two from the Swedish tongue, three from the Italian, five from the Spanish, and twenty-one from the German. Some hundred and seventy are of purely English origin; and of these about ninety may, "in their present form," says Mr. Shipley, "be termed original." Of course, with so large an infusion of mediaeval writing, both of the Latin and Greek Churches, a certain flavour of something distinct from Protestantism must be frequently perceptible; and this, together with the antique fashion in which the work is produced, giving it somewhat the appearance of a missal divested of its gorgeousness, will probably render the collection unpopular with many. The editor confesses that, "with so many various contributors, it is too much to hope that no slight differences of opinion will be discovered to exist;" but he adds that "nothing has been inserted in *Lyra Messianica* which is out of harmony with the doctrine of the Church of England." The doctrine of the Church of England being differently expounded by different persons, this assurance does not carry great weight; but it cannot be questioned that Mr. Shipley's volume contains much of antiquarian interest, poetic beauty, and religious expression.

Miss Harriet Martineau has issued a new edition of her volume on *Household Education*, from the establishment of Messrs. Smith, Elder, & Co.

Innkeeper's Legal Guide.—Mr. Richard T. Tidswell, M.A., Oxon, of the Inner Temple, has published a little work which he calls "The Innkeeper's Legal Guide: What he must do, what he may do, and what he may not do. A Handy-book to the Liabilities, Limited and Unlimited, of Innkeepers, Alehouse-keepers, and Refreshment-house-keepers, &c., with verbatim Copies of the Innkeeper's Liability Act, the General Licensing Act, and Forms." (Lockwood & Co.) The rather complicated laws with regard to the management of houses of entertainment and the responsibilities of landlords are concisely and lucidly explained; and a careful study of the book would be of great service to licensed victuallers.

Wise Sayings of the Great and Good.—Under this title, Messrs. Whittaker & Co. publish an elegant volume of extracts in prose and verse from great authors, for the most part of our own country, though some bits are translated from Goethe, Schiller, and others. The passages are all sufficiently short to be pithy and striking; and although some, in so large a selection, are necessarily of inferior merit, the majority are so many golden beads which we might count over and over again without getting tired.

Of pamphlets we have to notice *Man and Apes*, a lecture delivered at the Croydon Literary and Scientific Institution, January 21st, 1864, by William Boyd Musket, M.B., London (Elliot Stock), an examination of the several questions concerning the origin and the antiquity of man, which the writer determines in favour of Biblical theories;—*On Modern and Scriptural Geology*, by Joseph Dickinson, F.G.S., Ex-President of the Manchester Geological Society, &c. (Thomas & Baxter, Manchester), composed with a similar view to supporting the authority of the Bible;—*Address of J. R. McClean, Esq., F.R.A.S.*, on his election as President of the Institution of Civil Engineers, session 1863-4 (Clowes & Sons), containing some interesting statistics as to the development of engineering science during the last thirty years, and the effect this has had in promoting the material and intellectual progress of Great Britain, together with a few particulars relative to the Suez Canal, and the suggestions of the English Commissioners, of whom the author was one;—a re-publication, with introduction and appendices, of the speech of Mr. Henry Seymour, in the House of Commons, May 12th, 1863, on the

subject of the *Waste Lands of India* (Ridgway), in which the honourable gentleman advocates the abolition or reduction of the rent-charge on Indian lands at present maintained in favour of the State, and the sale by Government of the fee-simple of waste lands at a low rate, so as to encourage settlers with capital;—and two little treatises on the *Sugar Duties*, one being the second edition, with additional notes, of some remarks by Mr. Henry Nelson, a witness before the Parliamentary Committee of 1862 (Smith & Elder), advocating the substitution for the present varying scale of a uniform duty; and the other (Galt & Co., Manchester) consisting of a reply to the letter of Mr. Potter, M.P., to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in which reply the author, Mr. Alfred Fryer, supports the existing system of taxation according to the description of the sugar imported, which, he contends, results in an equality of taxation on the absolute sugar itself, seeing that the inferior sort, which pays less, is largely diluted with moisture and impurities.

THE SHAKESPEARE TERCENTENARY.

WE have very little to chronicle this week with respect to the approaching festival. As the time draws near, those who have concerned themselves in the management of the celebration probably find that they have enough to do in the way of hard work, and, as a consequence, the wranglings of a few weeks ago have quite died out. This in itself is a hopeful sign, which we are glad to observe.

From Liverpool we learn that the Mayor intends to give a Shakespearean fancy dress ball at the Town Hall on the 21st of April, and to throw open the theatres on the evening of the following day.

Mr. William Allingham, whose poems attracted considerable attention several years ago, writes to the *Daily News* to suggest the erection of a statue to Shakespeare, by our best living sculptor, at a central point of the new Blackfriars-bridge. "Rising boldly over the parapet, which might be so designed as to aid the effect, this statue would have a novel, impressive, and widely-seen position in the middle of London, and in that part of London where once stood the Globe theatre on the right, and the Blackfriars theatre on the left, bank of the Thames." Mr. Allingham further proposes that the bridge be named "Shakespeare-bridge." We fear, however, that all the little errand-boys would damage the statue as they passed, and that we practical and prosaic English would not consent to give up our familiar title of "Blackfriars-bridge."

The *Daily News* also publishes a letter from Mr. Charles Holte Bracebridge, recommending that the monument to be erected at Stratford should consist of a loggia, erected on the site of New Place (Shakespeare's demolished mansion), enclosing a bust of the poet on a pedestal, and decorated with statues, reliefs, and fresco paintings, which might be added at some future time.

Mr. Webster, speaking at the complimentary dinner given to him on Wednesday, said that his proposal to devote any surplus that might remain from the national funds to the establishment, in connection with the Royal Dramatic College, of schools for the education of the children of poor actors—to be called "Shakespeare Schools," and to have scholarships attached, like those of Harrow and Rugby—has been so well received by the National Committee as to have been already adopted by them as a part of their programme. The boys, besides having a good general education, would be instructed in "the histrionic art and mystery."

Messrs. Howell, James, & Co., goldsmiths, &c., by appointment, to the Queen and the Prince and Princess of Wales, are about to issue a Memorial Bust of Shakespeare, by Mr. Felix M. Miller, professor of sculpture in the Government School of Art. This bust, which has received the approval of the Fine Art Councils of the London and Stratford-on-Avon Committees, is executed in Wedgwood's ceramic statuary (12 inches in height), at one guinea; in French white terra cotta (15 inches), at the same price; in Italian pink terra cotta (15 inches), at two guineas; and in bronze (8 inches), at three guineas.

LITERARY GOSSIP.

THERE are certain positions in life which are very influential, but which are also occasionally very disagreeable. Schoolmasters are invariably troubled with dyspepsia; managers of theatres wear their lives out in trying to reconcile the differences of actors and actresses; and the heads of our large circulating libraries never know, from one moment to another, what direction the reading taste of their subscribers will take—whether the ten thousand ladies and gentlemen will want this religious biography, or that sensation novel. An hotel keeper can calculate the probable proportion of tastes for roast and boiled amongst his visitors, and, if it is Michaelmas, or any other season, he will know what to provide; but the librarian may at any moment have a general cry for goose, although it is midsummer, or ten thousand shouting for cod-fish when the Michaelmas repast has been provided according to the old-fashioned taste. It is now stated that the recent grumbling about the tardy delivery of new books by the Pall-mall Library Company was quite uncalled for. When Kinglake's "History of the Crimean War" appeared, the Company took 1,000 copies; but before a week had elapsed, nearly 20,000 subscribers entered their names for the work. How was it possible for the librarian to oblige all these good people at once? Some had to be last, just as at the filling or emptying of a church; but it would certainly be a novel proceeding for a grumbling worshipper to write to the *Times* that the Rev. Dr. Cumming ought to be ashamed of himself because one particular member could not always be first in and out of his pew. Mr. Mudie knows what this trouble is as well as the managers of the older libraries. It is only reasonable that an age of "sensation literature" should produce an age of sensation reading. The Company in Pall-mall have recently issued a report of their last meeting. From this it appears that the library is in a very flourishing condition. The secretary informs us that the present number of subscribers is 23,000, against 16,500 at the date of the last meeting; increase in the half-

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year, 6,500. They have now sixty-five depôts in operation, and have had numerous applications from all parts of the kingdom to open more; but the more branches they open, the more money they want, and the opening of a dépôt costs from £100 to £500, according to the importance of the town where it is placed. The secretary says that if they had more capital they would be able to do a much larger amount of business; and the subscriptions would greatly increase, while the working expenses would remain just as they are, or nearly so. There are between 7,000 and 8,000 private subscribers in London, while the business of the Company in the City itself has outgrown the agency, and a City branch has been rendered necessary. This establishment was opened on the 1st of January, in direct communication with the chief offices, and managed by officers of the company. The subscribers to the dépôts are increasing. The dépôt at Brighton is working admirably. It has nearly 1,800 subscribers; and the progress of the company in other large towns, like Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, Hull, Bristol, Birmingham, &c., is also satisfactory. The advantages of the library dépôt system are becoming very generally appreciated, and the reading capacities in the various districts represented are rapidly developing themselves.

It is now stated that the article on Thackeray in the last number of the *North British Review* was not by Dr. John Brown, but by a Mr. Lancaster, a Scotch barrister, the agent for Mrs. Yelverton when her case was before the Irish courts.

Purchasers of so-called "portraits," we fear, are frequently imposed on. Many years ago, the "boots" at the George and Blue Boar hostelry, in Holborn, used often to earn half-a-crown by sitting to painters and miniaturists as Napoleon I., whose features, when "boots" sat after one particular fashion, he very closely resembled. Some recent so-styled photographs of Mr. Thackeray were, we are quite sure, never taken from the life, especially one *carte-de-visite* which we lately saw in the Strand, representing the great humorist with an immense nosegay tied to a button-hole, and giving his features that milk-and-water amiability so well known in the portraits of the "Almanach de Gotha." If we are not mistaken, this photograph is from a Vienna coloured print—one of those which industrious German salesmen hawk from one London public-house to another. The following extract from a letter shows how portraits are manufactured at the antipodes:

"H. and I went a few days ago to see the White Swan Hotel, in Chandos-street, kept by a Mrs. Haller, who has a pretty daughter. As soon as H. saw the latter, she said, 'Bless me, how like you are to the Princess Alexandra!' 'Yes,' said the young lady, laughing, 'I believe so.' 'Indeed you are,' continued H.; 'has nobody ever told you so?' 'Oh, yes,' replied the other, laughing again; and then added in an undertone, 'To tell you the truth, I have stood for a portrait of the Princess, and many hundreds of my likenesses have been sold for hers.' Then she explained that a photographic artist who frequented the house had asked her to oblige him by 'standing' for the purpose, and for the fun of the thing she had consented; and that is the way in which some of the 'exact' likenesses of the Princess have been produced."

The success of Mr. Hain Friswell's recent little volume of essays, "The Gentle Life," has induced that gentleman to arrange another series for publication. It will most probably be issued by the publishers of the first series.

Shakespeare literature grows apace, and 1864 seems likely to require a "Bibliotheca Shakespeariana" of its own. Already Mr. Bohr's recent list, given in his edition of Lowndes, has become a sadly deficient guide to all that has been written about Shakespeare. During the past week, five new editions of his dramatic works have appeared, and four other publishing schemes have been announced. Mr. and Mrs. Cowden Clarke seem to be the favourite editors, probably because their critical labours, published in America, are not protected by copyright here. Formerly a new edition of Shakespeare was considered in the book trade as quite sufficient to stock the market for one literary season; now, four or five appear every week. In one printer's establishment alone, there were recently not less than seven editions being prepared for five different publishers. Conspicuous amongst those issued this week, we note Mr. Nimmo's "red line" edition—a very handsome work. Mr. Routledge announces his intention of re-issuing Charles Knight's very beautiful pictorial edition. It will appear in numbers at a low price. Messrs. Whittingham and Wilkins announce an edition in six volumes, to be edited by Thomas Keightley. A new edition of Mrs. Cowden Clarke's "Heroines of Shakespeare," in three vols., has also this week been "subscribed" to the trade. A gentleman in Paris, who has long paid attention to continental Shakespeariana, states his intention of postponing the publication of his new work on the Literature of Shakespeare until the present *furore* has in a measure subsided, fearing that the celebration, so far as the issue of new books is concerned, is being somewhat overdone.

Deputy M. Beitzte, author of the "History of the Wars of Liberty," a well-known work, is about to be prosecuted for *lise Majesté*. He appears to have made use of some strong language in the shop of a pastrycook at Kœslin, and the persons who were present betrayed him to the authorities.

Thackerayana continue to appear in the local journals. A London correspondent (understood to be Mr. Tom Taylor) writes to the *Manchester Examiner* as follows:—"I hear that soon after the death of Mr. Thackeray Lord Palmerston wrote in very kind and handsome terms to his daughters, offering to recommend them for pensions on the Literary Fund. The answer was what might have been expected from the children of a man who consistently exhorted his literary brethren to rely on themselves, and to discard any notion of State recognition or assistance. The Misses Thackeray respectfully declined the offer, adding, as one amongst other reasons for doing so, their opinion that their acceptance of it would not have been approved of by their illustrious parent."

A curious Confederate publication has recently appeared in Liverpool,—"The Cruise of the Alabama: being the Diary of an Officer on

board the Confederate War-steamer *Alabama* from her leaving the Mersey to her Arrival in Simon's Bay, Cape of Good Hope." This pamphlet is illustrated with a portrait of Captain Semmes (with autograph) and an engraving of the steamer *Alabama* in chase of the ship *Brilliant*. The narrative comprises details of all the captures made by this remarkable vessel, together with many interesting events which occurred during her cruise.

The famous collection of coins and bronzes known as the "Leake Collection" will, in all probability, be bought by the Cambridge University. At a meeting of members of the Senate in the Arts School, the purchase of Colonel Leake's collection was discussed. The coins had been valued by Mr. Curt at £6,000; but the Syndics obtained the opinion of another numismatist, Mr. Borrell, who estimated their value, if brought to auction, at £4,500. A third gentleman had inspected the collection, and thought it probable that some of the coins would fetch considerably more than Mr. Borrell had put down. The vases were of the second period of Greek art, and, although not of the finest epoch, would, in the opinion of competent judges, form a valuable addition to the Fitzwilliam Museum. Taking all together, he felt no doubt that the collection was worth £5,000, and it was very undesirable that it should leave the country, as it would do if not purchased by that University or by Oxford.

The literature of the "Schleswig-Holstein question" does not appear to be at all diminishing. Last week we announced an interesting "Genealogical Chart," showing the right of the present king to the throne of Denmark, and the claim of the Duke of Augustenburg to the Duchy of Schleswig-Holstein, by Mr. F. J. Jeffrey, of Liverpool. This week we have to announce a similar chart, advocating the other side, by a German residing in Liverpool. So far as the arrangement of type is concerned, it appears to be a servile copy of the first publication, and, as the quotations given are not correct, we fear that a political object was the sole reason of its appearance. In Paris, the feeling in favour of Denmark has become much stronger since the arrest of M. Eugène de Arnault, and the banishment by Von Wrangel of other equally inoffensive persons. Every old treaty which guarantees the Duchies to the Danes is raked up by French savants and archivistes. M. Cortembert cites one which was made in the time of Charlemagne, who agreed that the King of Denmark was to hold in peace all the territory lying between the North Sea and the Eider; and M. Amyot publishes another, in which Schleswig and Holstein were, on the 14th of June, 1720, secured to Denmark. This latter is better known than the former.

Messrs. T. & T. CLARK, of Edinburgh, are about to publish, in six volumes, demy octavo, to be issued to subscribers at the price of £1. 15s., a translation of Dr. Lange's "Life of the Lord Jesus Christ: A Complete Critical Examination of the Origin, Contents, and Connection of the Gospels." Dr. Lange, who is the Professor of Divinity in the University of Bonn, is already known, both in Germany and England, as the author of a "Theological and Homiletical Commentary on St. Matthew's Gospel." In the work of which an English translation is now about to make its appearance, and which Bishop Ellicott highly praises in his Hulsean Lectures, the author opposes all the doctrines of recent negative criticism, and asserts the authenticity and credibility of the Gospels, at the same time describing their origin and exhibiting their unity. This having been accomplished in the first book, the second presents a detailed history of the life of Jesus, drawn from a minute critical examination of the Gospels, the whole four being blended in one consistent narrative; while in the third book, the four representations are given separately in their individual integrity. This important work has been rendered into English by the Rev. Marcus Dods, A.M., who has supplied some additional notes to the original. The same publishers have also in the press a translation of Heagenbach's "History of Religion in Germany in the Eighteenth Century," and of M. de Pressens's work on the "Atonement."

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, the literary auctioneers of Leicester-square, will sell early in the ensuing month the fine and rare books collected by Mr. R. T. Pritchett, the Whitworth gun-maker, of St. James's-street, many of which relate to arms, armour, and military antiquities; a most curious and extensive series of official papers, accounts, and letters of the Office of Ordnance, 1626-85, in 21 folio vols.; an interesting inventory of the entire effects of King Charles I., with the appraisement of the Parliamentary Commissioners to each article; autographs of Oliver Cromwell, Charles I. and II.; some excessively rare American tracts, by Increase Mather, T. Shepherd, W. Hubbard, R. Reynolds, U. Okes, &c.; many curious and scarce books in all departments of literature, French tracts, &c.

Those interested in the literature and antiquities of Wales will be sorry to learn that the family mansion of the late Lord Mostyn, and the recent residence of the Hon. J. P. Lloyd and the Misses Lloyd, has been totally destroyed by fire. The fire was discovered in the early part of the evening, and from that time until a late hour at night every attempt was made by the neighbours (as well as by many of the inhabitants of Rhyl, St. Asaph, and Rhuddlan) to suppress the flame, but all to no avail. Fortunately, through the timely arrival of engines from Bodryddan and Bodelwyddan, and the good supply of water, most of the furniture was saved. At present it is impossible to calculate the loss sustained by the noble proprietor; but when it is known that, in addition to costly ornaments and family paintings (including some of the choicest productions of the Dutch, Italian, and English schools), most, if not all, of the rare and valuable library of Welsh records and manuscripts known as "the Mostyn Collection" have been seriously damaged, some estimate may be formed of the consequences of the fire. The literati of Wales have drawn deeply from the fount of antiquated lore, in relation to the customs and institutions of the ancient Cymry, contained in these documents, and will hear with sorrow of their loss. It was a sad sight at midnight to look upon the black ruins of what but a few hours before was a stately hall, and which for many years has been noted as the abode of the most generous and hospitable family in Wales.

M. de Falloux is at present engaged in preparing for publication a number of letters of the Abbé Lacordaire.

LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS FOR THE WEEK.

Abrahall (J. H.), Western Woods and Waters. *Fcap.*, 8s. 6d.
 Althaus (J.), Paralysis, Neuralgia, &c. 3rd edit. *Fcap.*, 3s. 6d.
 Arnott (Dr.), Elements of Physics. 6th edit. Part I. *Svo.*, 10s. 6d.
 Armstrong (Sir W.), Industrial Resources of the Tyne, Wear, and Tees. *Svo.*, 21s.
 Axel: a poem. Translated by Rev. R. Mucklestone. *Fcap.*, 2s. 6d.
 Bates (H. W.), The Naturalist on the River Amazonas. 2nd edit. Crown *Svo.*, 12s.
 Bell & Daldy's Elzevir Series, Burns' (Robt.) Poems. *Fcap.*, 4s. 6d.
 Blackfriars; or, The Monks of Old. 3 vols. Cr. *Svo.*, £1. 11s. 6d.
 Book (The) of Golden Gifts. 16mo., 3s. 6d.
 Butler (J. O.), Geography of the Globe. 12th edit. 12mo., 4s. 6d.
 Clarke (Mary C.), The Heroines of Shakespeare. New edit. 3 vols. Imp. 16mo., 10s. 6d.
 Cooke (C.) A Journey due East. Cr. *Svo.*, 6s. 6d.
 Cooper (J. F.), Heidenmauer. *Fcap.*, 1s.
 Crocker (J.), Geographical System of Weights and Measures. *Svo.*, 8s. 6d.
 Delmar (E.), Spanish Grammar. New edit. 12mo., 6s.
 Derns (G.) Diary. Cr. *Svo.*, 7s. 6d.
 Dodoley's Cellar Book. New edit. Oblg. 4to., 1s. 6d.
 Dundonald (Lord), Life of. By J. Allen. Cheap edit. *Fcap.*, 1s. 6d.
 Dyer (T. H.), Ancient Rome. Royal *Svo.*, 7s. 6d.
 Eastwick (E. B.), Three Years' Residence in Persia. 2 vols. Cr. *Svo.*, 18s.
 Edwards (T. W. C.), Eton Latin Grammar. New edit. 12mo., 2s. 6d.
 Every Little Boy's Book. New edit. *Fcap.*, 3s. 6d.
 Fortescue (Earl), Public Schools for the Middle Classes. *Svo.*, 4s. 6d.
 Fowle (Rev. F. W.), Types of Christ in Nature. *Fcap.*, 2s. 6d.
 Goulburn (Dr. E. W.), Introduction to the Study of Scripture. 6th edit. *Fcap.*, 3s. 6d.
 Gulliver's Travels. Illustrated. New edit. 8vo., 5s. 6d.
 Hearn (W. E.), Plutology. *Svo.*, 14s.
 Hopkins (Rev. T. W.), Sermons. *Fcap.*, 5s. 6d.
 Hunting Tours. By "Cecil." Cr. *Svo.*, 12s.
 Hussey (Dr. R.), Rise of Papal Power. New edit. *Fcap.*, 4s. 6d.
 James (G. P. R.), The Stepmother. Cheap edition. *Fcap.*, 1s.
 Jerrold's (D.) Works. Vol. IV. Cr. *Svo.*, 6s.
 Johnson (F.), Hitopadesa, Sanskrit Text. 2nd edit. 4to., 21s.
 Kirk (Rev. J.), The Mother of the Wesleys. Cr. *Svo.*, 5s.
 Laurie (J. S.), Sketches of the English Constitution. 12mo., 1s.
 Laycock (S.), Lancashire Rhymes. *Fcap.*, 2s.
 Little Flagg's, the Almshouse Foundling. 3 vols. Cr. *Svo.*, £1. 11s. 6d.
 Milman (Dean), History of Christianity. New edit. 3 vols. *Svo.*, £1. 16s.
 Mill (J. S.), Utilitarianism Explained. Cr. *Svo.*, 10s. 6d.
 Miller (K. M.), Questions on the Marine Steam-engine. Cr. *Svo.*, 1s.
 Milton's Poetical Works. Red line edition. Cr. *Svo.*, 8s.
 Nimmo's 3s. 6d. Editions of the Poets. Shakespeare. 2 vols. *Fcap.*, 7s. Milton. 1 vol. 3s. 6d.
 O'Brien (Capt.), Fifteen Views in Ceylon. Imp. folio, 3s. 3d.
 Parker's (Theodore) Works. By F. P. Cobbe. Vol. VII. Cr. *Svo.*, 6s.
 Prescott's (W. H.) Life. By G. Ticknor. *Svo.*, 12s.
 Progress of the Art of Building. Cr. *Svo.*, 2s. 6d.
 Punch, re-issue. 1859. 4to., 10s. 6d.
 — Vol. XXXVII. 4to., 5s.
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MEETINGS OF LEARNED SOCIETIES NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.

ARCHITECTS—At 8 P.M. "On Iron." By Mr. Aitchison.
 ACTUARIES—At 7 P.M.
 MEDICAL—At 8.30 P.M. "Products under the Influence of Various Agencies."
 PATHOLOGICAL—At 8 P.M.

TUESDAY.

MEDICAL and CHIRURGICAL—At 8 P.M. Anniversary.
 CIVIL ENGINEERS—At 8 P.M. Renewed Discussion upon Mr. Sopwith's Paper "On the Mont Cenis Tunnel."
 PHOTOGRAPHIC—At 8 P.M.
 ANTHROPOLOGICAL—At 8 P.M. "On the Origin of the Races of Man, with Reference to the Theory of Natural Selection." By A. R. Wallace, Esq., F.S.S.

ROYAL INSTITUTION—At 3 P.M. "On the Morphological Phenomena of Animal Life." By Professor Marshall, F.R.S.

WEDNESDAY.

SOCIETY of ARTS—At 8 P.M. "On the Verification of Olive-oil by means of its Cohesion Figure." By Mr. C. Tomlinson.
 PHARMACEUTICAL—At 8 P.M.

ROYAL LITERATURE—At 8.30 P.M. "On the Meaning of the Words 'Until Shiloh come'" (Genesis xliv. 10). By the Rev. Professor Stanley Leathes, M.A.

THURSDAY.

ROYAL—At 8.30 P.M. "On the Spectra of Ignited Gases and Vapours, with Special Regard to the Different Spectra of the same Elementary Gaseous Substances." By Professor Plücker and M. Hittorf.

LINNEAN—At 8 P.M. 1. "On the Identity of Pinus Pinea of Macedonia with the *P. excelsa* of the Himalaya." By Dr. Hooker. 2. "On the Double Cocoa-nut of the Seychelles Islands." By Mr. Swinburn Ward. 3. "On the Fecundation of Orchids and their Morphology." By Dr. H. Criger. 4. "On a Peculiar Mode of Fructification in *Chionyphe Carteri*." By the Rev. M. J. Berkeley.

CHEMICAL—At 8 P.M. "On the Non-Metallic Impurities of Refined Copper." By Professor Abel.

ROYAL INSTITUTION—At 3 P.M. "On the Morphological Phenomena of Animal Life." By Professor Marshall.

FRIDAY.

ROYAL INSTITUTION—At 8 P.M. "On the Discrimination of Organic Bodies by their Optical Properties." By Professor Stokes, Sec. R.S.

PHILOLOGICAL—At 8 P.M. "On English Heterographs: a Historic Notice of the would-be Reformers of English Spelling." By H. B. Wheatley, Esq.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE—At 4 P.M.

SATURDAY.

ROYAL INSTITUTION—At 3 P.M. "On the Metallo Elements." By Professor Frankland, F.R.S.

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